80

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

OF

EMINENT PERSONS.

BRITISH
MUSEUM

BRITISH
MUSEUM

J. Bridgman del.t

T. Sparrow sculp.t

FRONT VIEW OF KNOLE.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

OF

EMINENT PERSONS,

WHOSE

PORTRAITS

FORM PART OF THE

DUKE OF DORSET'S

COLLECTION AT KNOLE.

WITH A

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

OF THE

PLACE.

by H. N. Willis Esq.

Embellished with a Front and East View of Knole.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR JOHN STOCKDALE, PICCADILLY.

1795.

BRITISH
MUSEUM

TO HIS GRACE

JOHN FREDERICK,

DUKE OF DORSET, K. G.

LORD LIEUTENANT OF THE COUNTY OF

KENT,

LORD STEWARD OF

HIS MAJESTY's HOUSEHOLD,

&c. &c. &c.

MY LORD,

THESE Biographical Sketches of the eminent perſons whoſe portraits form a part of the magnificent collection at Knole, will, I hope, be not altogether unworthy of your

Grace's attention. I build no pretenſions on the work, as a compoſition of literary merit. It is as a tribute of reſpect and gratitude that it can lay any claim to an indulgent reception, and I flatter myſelf that the dutiful zeal with which the volume is offered, will, with your Grace, at leaſt, atone in ſome degree for its defects and imperfections.

I am,

My Lord,

with great reſpect,

Your Grace's

moſt obliged, and

obedient ſervant,

THE AUTHOR.

Sept. 27, 1795.

BRITISH MUSEUM

PREFACE.

So many claims are made by authors to the candour and indulgence of the public, and ſuch various reaſons are urged to deprecate the ſeverity of the critics, that I fear both the one and the other are grown callous to the appeals of literary adventurers. However diſcouraging this reflection might be, I muſt, notwithſtanding, riſque my apology, by aſſuring the reader that the following ſketches were not written with a view to publication; my intention was to have printed ſome copies for the uſe of the Nobleman to whom they are dedicated, and of thoſe friends to whoſe peruſal his Grace might have condeſcended to recommend them. With this view the ſheets were

tranſmitted to the preſs, ſome circumſtances then occurred which induced me (perhaps too eaſily) to alter my original deſign, and to ſubmit them to the public eye.

The ſketches are thirty-nine in number, the perſonages, whoſe lives are given, were all of them of conſiderable, and many of the higheſt celebrity. Their portraits form a part of the ſuperb collection at Knole. By whom they were all painted is unknown, ſome of them certainly by Holbein, and moſt of them, probably, by his pupils. A room near ninety feet in length, is appropriated to them, and to the great attention of the noble proprietor is to be aſcribed their being in perfect preſervation. The fineſt productions of Titian, Corregio, Vandyck, and Rembrandt, and particularly the moſt brilliant efforts of Sir Joſhua Reynolds's pencil, form the greater part of the reſt of the collection. But as any obſervations on the

abſolute or relative merits of theſe paintings are foreign to the plan of this work, and as general indiſcriminate praiſe conveys inaccurate ideas, or rather no ideas at all, I ſhall content myſelf with merely pointing them out to thoſe lovers of the art, to whom, through negligence or accident, this treaſure is hitherto unknown.

Some brief account, however, of the ancient manſion which contains it might not be altogether inappoſite or unacceptable to the reader.

The time of its ſtructure is not preciſely aſcertained. It is known that Baldwin de Bethun poſſeſſed it in the time of King John; from him, through the Mareſchals, earls of Pembroke, and Bigods, earls of Norfolk, it deſcended to Otho de Grandiſon, who held it in the reign of Edward I. In this family it remained till that of

Richard II. when it was conveyed by Sir Thomas Grandiſon to Geoffry de Say; whoſe daughter transferred it to Sir William Fiennes; and Sir William's ſon to Bourchier, archbiſhop of Canterbury, by whom conſiderable additions were made to the edifice, and who bequeathed it by will to the ſee of Canterbury. Archbiſhop Moreton likewiſe added to the building; and Cranmer, obſerving that the grandeur of the ſtructure excited the invidious remarks of the laity, exchanged it for lands from the crown. It continued as a royal domain till the reign of Edward VI. and was by him granted to his uncle, the Protector, Somerſet. Dudley, duke of Northumberland, obtained the poſſeſſion on its eſcheating by Somerſet's conviction. Northumberland's execution again transferred it to the crown; and Cardinal Pole procured it of Queen Mary for his life; on its lapſing a third time, Elizabeth preſented it to her

favorite, Leiceſter, who reſigned it; when, after a leaſe granted to John Leonard, Eſq. of Chevening, the Queen conferred it on Thomas Sackville, earl of Dorſet; who (with the exceptions of its being ſeized on in the time of the uſurpation, and of an alienation from Richard, the third earl, to Henry Smith, alderman of London, which was redeemed by his lordſhip's nephew) has tranſmitted it uninterruptedly to his poſterity. Few of the ancient manſions of our nobility impreſs us with the ideas of feudal magnificence more than this does. Its ſcite, "emboſomed high in tufted trees," the ſpace it occupies (upwards of five acres) its towers and battlements, all combine in recalling the days of chivalry and romance, nor is the charm broke as the viſitor enters the Gothic hall, undefaced by modern patch-work. A very fine ſtatue of Demoſthenes, purchaſed in Italy by the preſent Duke for £.700, ornaments one end of it.

The figure appears to be in the act of calmly diſcuſſing, rather than of thundering, or even of rouſing the Athenians to action. More energy and more geſticulation would have been neceſſary to have ſuited the attitude of the ſpeaker to "Will you not cover the "ſeas with your ſhips? Why are you "not at the Piræus? Why are you not "embarked?"* But if its character be deliberative compoſure, it is certainly the dignified compoſure of a great man. A corridor on the ſouth-weſt ſide of the edifice contains a noble collection of antique buſts, moſtly likewiſe bought in Italy by the preſent Duke; the heads of two boys particularly engage the attention, one is ſaid to be a young Nero, the other Galerius, the ſon of M. Aur. Antoninus, by Fauſtina. It is difficult to perſuade one's ſelf that the features of the former, which indicate ſuch

* Oration on the ſtate of the Cherſoneſus.

gentleneſs and ſweetneſs of character, could have formed the exterior of a mind that was one day to aſtoniſh the world with deeds of ſuch incredible atrocity. *Vultu pulchro magis quam venuſto* is part of his picture given by Suetonius; if by *venuſto* is to be underſtood the effect of the mind upon the countenance, the face of the man muſt have been very different from that of the boy. As Galerius died young, nothing is known of his character, but his lineaments, indeed, ſeem to proclaim more of the ſoul of his brother Commodus than that of his father Marcus Aurelius; Julius Cæſar, Pompey, Marcus Brutus, Antinous, and Theſeus, are among the reſt of the buſts; there is a ſtern moroſeneſs in the face of Brutus better ſuited to Livy's portrait of his anceſtor Junius, than to a diſciple of the mild philoſophy of the Platoniſts.

The architecture of this immenſe pile beſpeaks a variety of dates, the moſt ancient is probably coeval with the Mareſchals and Bigods; it ſeems as if the whole of it was antecedent to its becoming the poſſeſſion of the Sackvilles, though certainly many of this family have very conſiderably repaired it, particularly Richard, the fifth earl. No part appears of a more modern date than the reign of Elizabeth. Thomas, the firſt earl of Dorſet, came to reſide at Knole in 1603, he died in 1607, and as the water-ſpouts, which were put up by him throughout the houſe, are dated 1605, it would appear that no part of the building is ſubſequent to this period. The garden gates, the ſun-dial, and many other places bear the arms of Sackville and Middleſex, a title brought into the family by Frances Cranfield, heireſs of the Earl of Middleſex, and Counteſs to the above-mentioned Richard. In a window in the billiard-room is the portrait of

a man in armour with this inſcription: *Herbrandus de Sackville præpotens Normannus intravit Angliam cum Gulielmo Conqueſtore, anno* 1066; and in a room called the Carton gallery, are painted on glaſs twenty-one armorial bearings, from the above Herbrandus to Richard, the third earl of Dorſet. A lineage which, as far as the boaſt of pedigree may be allowed a fair pretenſion, can be ſurpaſſed or even equalled by few in the kingdom. In another room are ſeveral ſhields of the arms of the Cranmer family; this room has the appearance of having once been the archbiſhop's private chapel, the window reſembles more thoſe of the places of religious worſhip than any other window in the houſe, and the approach to it is by two or three ſteps exhibiting altogether the appearance of what was once an altar.

The park owes much to nature and much to its noble proprietor; the line of its ſur-

face is perpetually varying, ſo that new points of view are conſtantly preſenting themſelves. The ſoil is happily adapted to the growth of timber; ſtately beeches and venerable oaks fill every part of the landſcape; the girth of one of theſe oaks exceeds twenty-eight feet, and probably its branches afforded ſhade to its ancient lords of Pembroke and Norfolk. The preſent Duke has, with much aſſiduity and taſte, repaired the gaps made in the woods by one of his anceſtors, who, "Foe to the Dryads of his fa-"ther's groves," had unveiled their haunts and expoſed their ſecret receſſes to the rude and gariſh eye of day. The plantations are not dotted about in cloddiſh clumps, as if they had no reference to a whole or general effect, but in broad and ſpacious maſſes cover the ſummits of the undulating line, or ſkirt the vallies in eaſy ſweeps. Not to dwell, however, on "barren generalities," among many others there are two points

of view which particularly deſerve the viſitor's attention; the one is from the end of a valley which goes in a ſouth-weſt direction from the houſe, it forms a gentle curve, the groves riſe magnificently on each ſide, and the trees, many of them beeches of the largeſt ſize, are generally feathered to the bottom; the manſion with its towers and battlements, and a back ground of hills covered with wood, terminate the viſta; the time moſt favorable for the proſpect is a little before the ſetting ſun, when the fore ground is darkened by a great maſs of ſhade, and the houſe, from this circumſtance and its being brightened by the ſun's rays, is brought forward in a beautiful manner to the eye. The other view is from a riſing ground of the ſame valley, and of a different kind from the former; on gaining the ſummit of the hill, a proſpect of vaſt extent burſts at once upon the eye; woods, heaths, towns, villages, and hamlets, are

all before you in bright confuſion, the ſudden and abrupt manner in which the proſpect preſents itſelf, being in perfect uniſon with the wildneſs of the ſcenery. The eye takes in the greater part of Weſt Kent, a conſiderable part of Suſſex, and diſtant view of the hills of Hampſhire. The fore ground is woody, the whitened ſteeples riſing every where among the trees, with gentlemen's ſeats ſcattered round in great abundance. Penſhurſt, the ancient reſidence of the Sidneys, ſtands conſpicuoſly on a gentle ſwell, forming a middle point between the fore ground and the South Downs that ſkirt the horizon. It is a venerable manſion ſurrounded with groves of high antiquity, I know not if the oak, planted the day Sir Philip Sidney was born and mentioned by Ben Johnſon, be yet remaining, if it be, I truſt it meets from the preſent proprietor with every reſpect due to ſo ſacred a relique. The patriot Algernon, and the poet Waller,

have both repoſed beneath its ſhade, and poſſibly here too Sir Philip ſketched his Arcadian ſcenes.

As theſe deſcriptions, however, form no part of my main deſign, and as words convey faint and inadequate ideas of objects excluſively within the province of the eye, I will treſpaſs no longer on my reader's time by attempts ſeldom ſatisfactory or ſucceſsful, but, with all poſſible deference, crave his indulgent attention to the following Biographical Sketches.

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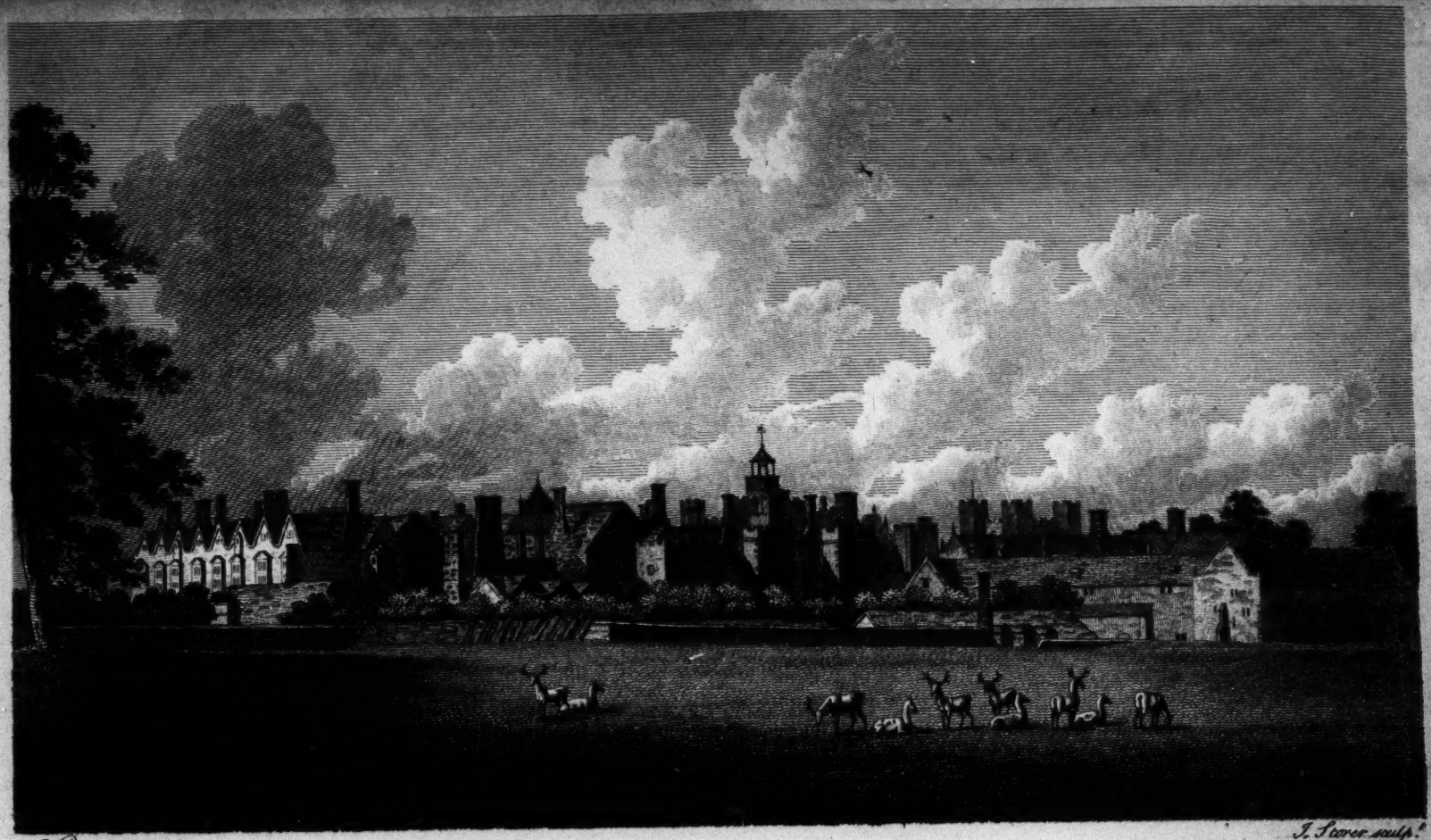

T. Bridgman del.t

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BIOGRAPHICAL

SKETCHES.

JOHN WHITGIFT,

ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY,

1530 — 1604

WAS deſcended from the ancient family of Whitgiſt, at Whitgiſt, in Yorkſhire, and born at Great Grimſby in Lincolnſhire, anno 1530. His early education was managed by an uncle, who, though an abbot, raiſed in his pupil's mind the firſt prejudices againſt the Roman Catholic religion; the lad, having imbibed a reliſh for the doctrines of the reformers, refuſed to go to maſs, on which his aunt, with whom he lived, inſiſted on his quitting her

houſe, as nothing but misfortune, ſhe ſaid, could befal the roof that harboured a heretic. In 1548 he was ſent to Queen's college, Cambridge, and ſoon after removed to Pembroke hall, under the tuition of John Bradford, the martyr; in 1555 he was choſen fellow of Peterhouſe, and ſoon after entered into holy orders; his parts and learning recommended him to the patronage of Cox, biſhop of Ely, nor was it long before (his fame reaching the ears of the Queen) he was ſent for to preach at court, and appointed one of the royal chaplains. In 1572 he commenced war againſt the Puritans, by anſwering a pamphlet called *An Admonition to the Parliament*; this admonition was a ſevere attack both on the doctrines and diſcipline of the church, and produced a long controverſy chiefly between Whitgift and Cartwright. This controverſy, however, was the means of advancing him to the deanry of Lincoln, and, in 1576, to the biſhopric of Worceſter; it was ſaid that the Queen wiſhed to have made him archbiſhop of Canterbury, even during the life of the then primate Grindall, who was deſirous of reſigning

in Whitgift's favor, but the latter ſtrenuouſly perſiſted in refuſing the ſee till it ſhould become vacant in the uſual and natural way. In 1583 this event took place, and Whitgift, now archbiſhop of Canterbury, ſignalized himſelf ſo much againſt the Puritans, that he was the object of their repeated attacks, particularly in a book, famous at the time, entitled Martin Mar-prelate. He died in 1604, and was interred at Croydon, where a monument is erected to him. He was preſent at the celebrated conference held in the beginning of this year, at Hampton Court, between the Eccleſiaſtics and the Puritans, under the immediate inſpection of King James; and though impartial candor will allow Whitgift no great ſhare of praiſe in diſcovering that James ſpoke through divine inſpiration, yet philoſophy and humanity will honor the memory of a man who, on every occaſion, ſhewed himſelf a ſtrenuous oppoſer of perſecution. Rapin (no flatterer of churchmen) ſays of him, "Whitgift was a mild and "peaceable man, who would have been glad "to have reclaimed the Puritans by gentle

" methods according to the precepts of the " goſpel." And Fuller in his Church Hiſtory ſtiles him " the worthieſt man that ever the " Engliſh hierarchy did enjoy."

THOMAS SACKVILLE.

EARL OF DORSET,

1536 to 1608,

WAS the ſon of Richard Sackville, Eſq. by Winifred, the daughter of Sir John Bruges. He was born in 1536, at Buckhurſt, in Suſſex, the ſeat of this ancient and illuſtrious family. The family of Sackville, or, as it was anciently written, Salcavilla, was of high antiquity in Normandy before the conqueſt, where they were lords of the town and ſeignory of Sackville. Herbrand de Sackville was one of the leaders of the forces that came into England under William the Conqueror, and is the ſeventh named in the liſt of theſe chieftains in an old manuſcript in the poſſeſſion of Edward Gwynn, of the Cuſtos Brevium office in the reign of James I. Robert, the third ſon of

Herbrand, is the direct anceſtor of the preſent Duke of Dorſet. He held various manors in Eſſex and Suffolk, and attended Richard Cœur de Lion on his cruſade to the holy land. Jordan, the eldeſt ſon of Robert, by marrying Hela, daughter of Ralph de Den, acquired the manor of Buckhurſt. Sir Jordan de Sackville, grandſon of the above Jordan, was one of the barons who were elected and ſworn to ſee the articles of the Magna Charta performed by King John. Thomas Sackville, earl of Dorſet, was the tenth in deſcent from the above Sir Jordan, and was ſent to Oxford towards the latter end of Edward the Sixth's reign, but removed to Cambridge, and from thence to the Inner Temple, in order to ſtudy the law, not as a profeſſion, but as a qualification to enable him to diſcharge his duty in parliament; during his reſidence in the Temple, he wrote a moral drama, which he called "An Introduction to "the Mirror of Magiſtrates;" it exhibits in a ſeries of poems, examples of bad men, who diſhonoring high ſituations by vicious practices, end their days in diſgrace and miſery. Its poetic

merit is ſuch, that Wharton ſays of it, "Sack-
"ville's Introduction approaches nearer to the
"Fairy Queen, in the richneſs of allegoric
"deſcription, than any previous or ſucceeding
"poem." In 1561 he publiſhed a tragedy, called Ferrex and Porrex, ſons of Gorboduc, king of Britain, the three firſt acts were, however, written by Mr. Norton. It is remarkable that this was the firſt tragedy in Engliſh verſe, and was performed by the gentlemen of the Inner Temple before Queen Elizabeth at Whitehall. Sir Philip Sydney ſays of it, "that it
"was full of notable morality which doth moſt
"delightfully teach." Whoever conſiders that it appeared ſome years before Shakeſpeare and the then imperfect ſtate of Engliſh poetry, will allow it great merit. It was afterwards brought on Drury Lane ſtage, in 1736, through the recommendation of Pope, and acted with great ſucceſs.

In the firſt parliament of Elizabeth, Mr. Sackville was elected for the county of Suſſex, and his father, Sir Richard, for Kent; in the

ſecond of that reign, the father was choſen for Suſſex, and the ſon for Buckinghamſhire. He was ſoon after raiſed to the peerage by the title of Lord Buckhurſt, not only his perſonal merit, but his affinity recommended him to the Queen's favor; his grandfather having married a ſiſter of Elizabeth's maternal grandfather. In 1571 he was ſent ambaſſador to Charles IX. king of France, to negotiate the treaty of marriage between the Queen and the Duke of Anjou. In 1586 he was appointed one of the commiſſioners for the trial of the Queen of Scots. He was ſoon after ſent as ambaſſador extraordinary to ſettle the diſputes between the States General and the Earl of Leiceſter; his talents and candor gained him the eſteem of the States, but made Leiceſter his enemy, whoſe influence over the Queen was ſuch, as to procure an order for Lord Buckhurſt's being confined to his houſe for ſome months; on Leiceſter's death he was reſtored to favor, created knight of the garter, and, at the Queen's ſpecial recommendation, elected chancellor of the univerſity of Oxford.

In 1598 he was joined with Lord Burleigh to negotiate a peace with Spain, and conducted himſelf in this buſineſs with ſuch eminent ability, that he was raiſed to the poſt of lord high treaſurer; from this period, Burleigh being dead, he acted in conjunction with Cecil to the end of Elizabeth's, and the four firſt years of the next reign. In 1604 he was created, by James, Earl of Dorſet, and died ſuddenly while ſitting at the council board in 1608, as he was promoting the independence of the Low Countries, which, however, was not acknowledged by Spain till the enſuing year. The death of this great and excellent miniſter made way for James's Scotch favorites, who laid the foundation of the ruin of his race.

Mr. Walpole concludes his portrait of him thus: "Few miniſters have left ſo fair a cha-
"racter; in private life he was an affectionate
"huſband, a kind father, and a firm friend;
"for the laſt twenty years of his life his
"family conſiſted of 200 perſons, moſt of
"whom he entertained on motives of charity;

" nor was he leſs benevolent to the poor out " of doors, to whom he afforded liberal relief " in the time of ſickneſs and ſcarcity." Lord Bacon, too, ſpeaks of him in the following terms: " My Lord of Buckhurſt was of the " noble houſe of Sackville, and of the Queen's " conſanguinity; his father was Richard Sack- " ville, or, as the people then called him, " *Fill-ſack*, by reaſon of his great wealth, and " the vaſt patrimony which he left to his ſon, " whereof he ſpent in his youth the beſt part, " until the Queen, by her frequent admoni- " tions, diverted the torrent of his profuſion. " He was a very fine gentleman of perſon and " endowments both of art and nature, but " without meaſure magnificent. He was a " ſcholar, and a perſon of quick diſpatch, (fa- " culties that yet run in the blood) and they " ſay of him, that his ſecretaries did little for " him by the way of indictment, wherein they " could ſeldom pleaſe him, he was ſo *facétie* " and choice in his phraſe and ſtile." Dr. Abbot, in his funeral ſermon on this great

man, ſays of him, "Never was there any no-
"bleman with more humble agnizing, with
"more feeling and affectionate greatneſs.
"Who more loving to his wife? that ho-
"norable lady, the mirror of all true virtue.
"Who more kind to his children? Who
"more faſt to his friend? Who more true to
"his word? No nobleman more given to
"hoſpitality, his family ſometimes conſiſting
"of 220 perſons. Such was his earneſt deſire
"of avoiding the doing of wrong, that he
"bought no land for which he did not pay
"more than its worth, giving as a reaſon,
"that it would the better proſper and continue
"in his name and poſterity. From his tenants
"he took leſs fines by a third than other lords
"uſually took." His long, active, and labo-
rious exertions as a miniſter, his munificence
as a patron, his hoſpitality and generoſity, his
ſincere and warm attachment to his family and
friends, his kind and affectionate demeanor to
his dependents, ſo endeared him to the Queen
and to all who had partaken of his benefits, or

had even heard of his name, that as he lived univerſally beloved and eſteemed, ſo the tears and regret of a nation accompanied him to his tomb.

ROBERT CECIL,

EARL OF SALISBURY,

1550 to 1612,

WAS the ſecond ſon of the great Lord Burleigh; he was deformed from his birth, of a feeble conſtitution, and on that account his early education was confined to the houſe of his father, by whom he was thoroughly initiated in the ſcience of politics; he was ſent from thence to St. John's college, Cambridge, where he became a fellow and took his degrees. It is ſomewhat ſurprizing that, with theſe advantages, he ſhould appear in no public capacity till the age of thirty-five, and *then* as ſecretary of the embaſſy to the Earl of Derby, ambaſſador to France. Leiceſter, his father's enemy, probably impeded his promotion. In 1586, on his return from France, he was knighted, and

made under-ſecretary of ſtate to Sir Francis Walſingham; at whoſe death, in 1590, he ſucceeded as principal ſecretary of ſtate. His conduct towards the unfortunate Earl of Eſſex and Sir Walter Raleigh leaves to poſterity no very favorable impreſſion of his magnanimity, or ſenſe of equity. The raſh, unguarded warmth of Eſſex afforded ample ſcope for the cool, deliberate cunning of Cecil, whoſe miſrepreſentations of Eſſex's conduct drove him to thoſe acts of deſperation that finally brought him to the block. In 1598 he was named ambaſſador extraordinary to the King of France, and his father dying at this period, he ſucceeded him as firſt miniſter. The great object of Cecil's policy was ſecuring the throne for James; in this he ſucceeded, and met with ſuitable returns from that monarch. It required, however, all his art, and all his ſcience in myſterious intrigue, to hide his correſpondence with James from the jealous and watchful eyes of Elizabeth, who complained, that the proſpect of favors from her ſucceſſor had gone far in obliterating the ſenſe of gratitude that ſhe con-

ceived was due to her from her ſervants, and ſhe reproached Cecil particularly with his neglect of her.

In 1603, ſoon after his acceſſion, James created the miniſter, Baron of Eſſenden; in the year following, Viſcount Cranbourn; and in 1605 he was made Earl of Saliſbury, knight of the garter, and chancellor of the univerſity of Cambridge. He is ſaid to have leaned too much to the royal prerogative, and to have ſhewn a diſpoſition bordering on ſervility in complying with his maſter's inclinations: but truth muſt allow him an activity and zeal in the diſcharge of the public buſineſs that enſured him the eſteem both of the nation and of foreigners, nor did his too abject condeſcenſion to the king's meaſures prevent him from ſtrenuouſly and wiſely oppoſing the Spaniſh connection; and James reſpected him too much to reſent it.

In 1608, on the death of the Earl of Dorſet, Lord Saliſbury ſucceeded to the office of Lord

High Treaſurer, and in the diſcharge of his office he oppoſed a juſt and laudable œconomy to the abſurd and wild profuſion of his maſter. Nor did his arrangements proceed from any narrow views of amaſſing a treaſure; but his frugal adminiſtration of the finances enabled him to favor uſeful inventions, to promote commerce, encourage the fiſheries, and to offer rewards for tilling uncultivated lands. His health declining from his inceſſant application to buſineſs, in 1612 he went to Bath, but finding little benefit from the waters, he returned and died on the road at Marlborough, June 24, 1612. His body was brought to Hatfield, which the King had given him in exchange for Theobalds, and a monument is erected to his memory in Hatfield church.

The Earl of Saliſbury left one ſon, named William, who ſucceeded him in his honors.

SIR FRANCIS DRAKE,

1545 to 1596,

WAS the ſon of Edmund Drake, a mariner, and born near Taviſtock in Devonſhire, 1545; he was the eldeſt of twelve ſons, and placed under the patronage of Captain Hawkins, afterwards the celebrated admiral, who made him a purſer, and ſoon after captain of a ſhip that went on a voyage to the Gulph of Mexico, where, under the command of Captain Hawkins, he gallantly diſtinguiſhed himſelf. In 1570 he made another voyage to inform himſelf of the ſtrength and ſituation of ſome places in the Spaniſh Weſt Indies, and having acquired the information neceſſary for the execution of his plan, he returned, and ſoon after he, together with his brother John Drake, made a ſucceſsful expedition againſt the town of Nom-

bre de Dios and Vera Cruz; though, however, the complete execution of his plan was in ſome meaſure fruſtrated, he arrived with conſiderable booty at Plymouth in 1573. By the means of the Earl of Eſſex, and Sir Chriſtopher Hatton, he was ſtrongly recommended to Queen Elizabeth, who gave him the command of five ſmall veſſels to make diſcoveries and annoy the Spaniards in the South ſeas. With this little ſquadron he ſailed from Plymouth in November, 1577, and entered the Streights of Magellan the 20th of Auguſt following, from thence coaſting along the ſhores of Chili and Peru, he reached the latitude of 42° north, and attempted to find a paſſage to the eaſtward, but failing, he returned to latitude 38°, and put into a harbour on the north part of California. To this country he gave the name of New Albion, and took poſſeſſion of it in the Queen's name. He then croſſed the great ſouthern ocean, and continuing his courſe by the Cape of Good Hope, arrived ſafe at Plymouth in September, 1580, having ſailed round the world in leſs than three years. The Queen gave him a moſt gra-

cious reception; viſited him on board his ſhip at Deptford, where, after honouring Drake with her company at dinner, ſhe conferred on him the order of knighthood, and gave direction for preſerving his ſhip as a monument of his own and his country's glory; the ſhip being, however, decayed, it was, many years after, broke up, and a chair, made of part of the wood, was preſented to the univerſity of Oxford.

In 1585 he was made an admiral, and two years after burnt 10,000 tons of Spaniſh ſhipping in the bay of Cadiz; in which expedition he likewiſe took a Caracca ſhip from the Eaſt Indies, which capture is ſaid to have ſuggeſted the firſt idea of the eſtabliſhment of our Eaſt India Company. Three years after he was appointed vice-admiral, under the Earl of Effingham, and had his full ſhare in the defeat of the Spaniſh armada. In 1595 he, in conjunction with Sir John Hawkins, ſailed on an expedition to the Weſt Indies, which, not ſucceeding, threw Drake into a deep melan-

choly, and this, being followed by the bloody flux, terminated his honorable and uſeful life.

His death was lamented by the whole nation, nor was his private character leſs amiable than his public conduct was glorious. He employed a conſiderable ſhare of the riches acquired from the Spaniards, in conveying a ſtream, to ſupply Plymouth with freſh water, the diſtance of twenty miles, and exerted himſelf in the nobleſt manner in the encouragement of navigation and commerce.

His ſtature was low but well ſet, his eyes large, his complexion fair, and his countenance open, cheerful, and engaging. His temper was ſomewhat haſty, but he was a ſteady friend, and a liberal benefactor. As he left no iſſue, his eſtate deſcended to his brother's ſon Francis, who was created a baronet by James I.

DON JOHN OF AUSTRIA,

1547 to 1578,

ONE of the greateſt captains of the ſixteenth century, was the natural ſon of the Emperor Charles V. He was born at Ratiſbon, 1547, and was brought up ſecretly in the country, by the wife of Louis Quixade, chief maſter of the houſehold to the Emperor. The circumſtance of his birth was not known till a little before the Emperor's death, who then diſcloſed it to his ſon Philip II.; in conſequence of this diſcloſure, Don John was educated at the court of Madrid, and was ſent in 1570 againſt the Moors, in the kingdom of Grenada; he was victorious in this expedition; and the next year gained the famous battle of Lepanto, in which upwards of 20,000 Turks periſhed; immediately after this memorable victory, he made himſelf maſter of Tunis and Biſerta; and was ap-

pointed, in 1576, governor of the Low Countries, where he conquered Namur, and ſeveral other places, and at Gemblours beat the allied armies in 1578. He died the ſame year in his camp near Namur, aged 32 years.

WILLIAM CECIL,

LORD BURLEIGH,

1521 to 1598,

WAS the ſon of Richard Cecil, groom of the robes, yeoman of the wardrobe to Henry VIII. and ſheriff of Northamptonſhire; he was ſent early to Cambridge and from thence to Gray's Inn. He married in his twentieth year a ſiſter of Sir John Cheek, tutor to Edward VI. and after her death, a daughter of Sir Anthony Cook; his marriages did not prevent him following the ſtudy of the law with great ardor and aſſiduity, and he ſoon raiſed himſelf to eminence in his profeſſion. When the Duke of Somerſet was made protector, he took Cecil into his family, and firſt made him a maſter of requeſts, in the next year cuſtos brevium, in the third cuſtos rotulorum for the county of Lincoln, and laſtly ſecretary of ſtate.

At the death of the King, he was one of Lady Jane Grey's privy council, notwithſtanding which, Queen Mary ſo curbed her vindictive ſpirit as far as related to him, that ſhe frequently conſulted him, nor was he leſs reſpected by her miniſters for his wiſdom and virtue. On the acceſſion of Elizabeth, he was again appointed ſecretary of ſtate, and unanimouſly elected chancellor of the univerſity of Cambridge. During the whole of the reign of Elizabeth, Burleigh uniformly retained his miſtreſs's favour; his advice was always the reſult of mature experience: equally circumſpect and moderate was the plan he propoſed for the ſettlement of religion; rejecting abſurd and ſuperſtitious ceremonies, while he retained whatever was neceſſary to the ſupport of decency and good order; the regulation of a debaſed coin, an undertaking both arduous and politic; the protecting the reformed church in Scotland and in France; the Queen's prudent and guarded conduct towards Spain, (the reſult of Burleigh's councils) are all ſufficient proofs of his political ſagacity. The Queen in 1571 created him

Baron Burleigh, ſoon after the ſuppreſſion of the northern rebellion, which was chiefly effected by the prudent meaſures of Cecil. Leiceſter, Sir Thomas Throgmorton, and the Spaniſh ambaſſador, were his inveterate enemies; the latter carried his vindictive ſpirit ſo far, as to hire aſſaſſins to take away his life, for which baſe plot the Queen ordered him to quit the kingdom. In 1572 Burleigh was made knight of the garter; and ſoon after, on the death of the Marquis of Wincheſter, lord high treaſurer. There is little doubt but the fate of Mary Queen of Scots is principally to be attributed to *him*, and there is as little doubt but that he acted in perfect conformity to Elizabeth's wiſhes, though poſſibly without the ſanction of her poſitive commands; for notwithſtanding all her ſhew of immoderate grief and indignation at the proceeding, Burleigh after a ſhort interval was reſtored to his wonted credit and influence. In 1588 he drew up the plan of defence againſt the Spaniſh armada. Every thing, indeed, that related to the ſtate either originated or centered in his councils; all degrees of people

addreſſed themſelves to him; high churchmen for patronage, Puritans for protection, fugitives for pardon, lieutenants of counties for inſtructions, and the lord high admiral for ſupplies, nor was any application ever made to him that was not conſidered and anſwered; his favourite maxim was, "that the ſhorteſt way to do many "things was to do only one thing at once." The laſt and not the leaſt glorious act of his life was making peace with Spain. He died Auguſt 4, 1598, with great ſerenity, in the midſt of his children, friends, and ſervants, aged ſeventy-ſeven years.

His perſon was agreeable, his countenance florid, the hair of his head and beard perfectly white, his temper ſerene and cheerful; his mode of living was generous and hoſpitable, at the expenſe in his family of thirty pounds a week in his abſence, and from forty to fifty when preſent; he had all his children and their deſcendants uſually at his table; whomſoever he converſed with, it was always on the footing of equality, and no one left his company

but with praiſe of his eaſe and affability; this condeſcending behaviour he practiſed even towards his ſervants, and would talk with the country people on their own affairs in their own manner; he uſed to ride on a little mule about his gardens at Theobalds, and amuſe himſelf as a ſpectator of the paſtimes of others, but never joined in them. His numerous dependants, his equipages, his ſplendid tables, were all the effects of his ſenſe of propriety, but not of his inclination; for no man more anxiouſly courted privacy, nor was any one better qualified to enjoy it. He left a great eſtate (amounting to 4000*l.* per annum in land, and 25,000*l.* in effects) to his poſterity, and to his eternal honour, not a ſingle act of injuſtice or oppreſſion was urged againſt him throughout the whole of his long and wiſe adminiſtration.

ROBERT DUDLEY,

EARL OF LEICESTER,

1532 to 1588,

WAS ſon of John, Duke of Northumberland, and born anno 1532; he was admitted early into the ſervice and favour of Edward VI. but with the reſt of his family fell into diſgrace at the acceſſion of Mary; no ſooner, however, did Elizabeth ſucceed, than he was received at court as a principal favourite; in a ſhort ſpace he was maſter of the horſe, knight of the garter, and privy-counſellor, and was propoſed by Elizabeth, (though probably not ſeriouſly,) as a proper huſband for the Queen of Scots, an offer, which was generally thought to have been made, to afford Elizabeth an excuſe for taking him herſelf; the death of Dudley's lady at this period gave riſe to many dark ſuſpicions;

ſhe was conducted by her huſband to the houſe of a domeſtic at Cumnor, in Berkſhire, where, as it was ſaid, after ſome attempts to poiſon her had proved inefficacious, ſhe was firſt ſtrangled, and then thrown from a high ſtair caſe, that her death might appear to have been occaſioned by the fall. In 1564, he was created Baron Denbigh, and Earl of Leiceſter, and elected chancellor of the univerſity of Oxford; about this time, he married the dowager Baroneſs of Sheffield, but afterwards, fearing it would occaſion the diminution of his influence over Elizabeth, he exerted himſelf by various means to induce his lady to deſiſt from her pretenſions; finding her, however, immoveable, he recurred to his former expedient of poiſon, which the ſtrong conſtitution of the lady ſo far reſiſted as to enable her to eſcape with the loſs of her hair and nails; ſhe had a ſon whom Leiceſter called his baſe ſon, but to whom he left the bulk of his fortune. In 1575, the Queen paid him a viſit at Kenilworth, where he entertained her ſeventeen days at the expenſe of 60,000*l.* At this period

appeared a pamphlet written with great force, entitled, A Dialogue between a Scholar, a Gentleman, and a Lawyer, in which the whole of Leiceſter's conduct was inveſtigated with equal truth and bitterneſs; the Queen herſelf cauſed letters to be written from the privy-council, denying the charges, and vindicating her favourite's innocence; the pamphlet, however, was not the leſs read nor credited.

In 1585, he was ſent as generaliſſimo to the the Low Countries, where his conduct was ſuch a tiſſue of inſolence and caprice, that he was recalled, but loſt nothing in his miſtreſs's favour, who conſulted him on the arduous affair of Mary, Queen of Scots, and it is reported his advice was to have recourſe to his old expedient poiſon.

He died in September 1588, after having been appointed lieutenant general under the Queen, of the army aſſembled at Tilbury. With one of the blackeſt hearts this man affected great

regularity in religious duties; he was thoroughly converſant in the Latin and Italian languages, ſpoke well, and wrote at leaſt equal to any man of his time.

RICHARD BANCROFT,

ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY,

1544 to 1610,

WAS the ſon of Mr. John Bancroft, and born at Farnworth in Lincolnſhire, in September, 1544; he was educated at Chriſt's college, Cambridge, and took his degree of A. M. at Jeſus college, in the ſame univerſity, in 1570; in 1597, he was made chaplain to Whitgift, Archbiſhop of Canterbury, and was advanced the ſame year to the ſee of London; the archbiſhop declining in health and years, almoſt the entire management of church affairs was delegated to Bancroft. In the beginning of James's reign, he was preſent at the famous conference at Hampton Court, between the biſhops and preſbyterian miniſters; during the debate, the chancellor taking occaſion to argue

againſt pluralities, and expreſſing his deſire, that ſome "*clergymen might have ſingle coats before others had doublets.*" Bancroft replied, "*I com-*" *mend your maxim, but a doublet is neceſſary in cold* " *weather.*" Whitgift dying in 1603, the Biſhop of London ſucceeded him, and at the death of the Earl of Dorſet, he was choſen chancellor of the univerſity of Oxford. In 1610, he propoſed to parliament a plan for the better maintenance of the clergy, but ineffectually; the building at Chelſea, now appropriated for the reception of invalid ſoldiers, was likewiſe firſt ſet on foot by him, as an inſtitution for ſtudents in polemical divinity. He died in 1610, and left his library to the Archbiſhops of Canterbury for ever. He was a ſtrict diſciplinarian, an excellent preacher, an acute diſputant, a vigilant governor of the church, and filled the ſee of Canterbury with great reputation.

THOMAS CRANMER,

ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY,

1489 to 1555,

WAS the ſon of Thomas Cranmer, Eſq. and born at Aſlacton in Nottinghamſhire, 1489; at the age of fifteen he went to Jeſus college, Cambridge, of which he became fellow, but marrying he loſt his fellowſhip; he was re-admitted on the death of his wife; the immediate cauſe of his advancement was the opinion he gave on Henry VIIIth's divorce, which opinion being made known to the King, he was ordered to write on the ſubject, and ſoon after was ſent to Italy and France to diſcuſs this important queſtion. On the death of Warham in 1532, he was made Archbiſhop of Canterbury, which dignity he at firſt refuſed, unleſs it ſhould be conferred on him without the Pope's interpo-

ſition; the enſuing year he pronounced the ſentence of divorce between Henry and Catharine, and married the King to Anne Boleyn. He firſt procured the Bible to be tranſlated into Engliſh. He forwarded the diſſolution of monaſtries; aboliſhed the ſuperſtitious obſervance of holidays, and ſtrenuouſly oppoſed the act of the ſix articles; he likewiſe endeavoured to reform the canon law, but this attempt miſcarried through the machinations of Gardiner; and on Henry's deceaſe, he was conſtituted one of the regents of the kingdom: through Edward's ſhort reign Cranmer never remitted his exertions for the eſtabliſhment of the reformation; he procured the repeal of the ſix articles; recommended frequent preaching; reviſed the eccleſiaſtic doctrines and diſcipline; and uſed his utmoſt endeavours to prevent the church revenues from being parcelled out among the courtiers. At Edward's deceaſe he eſpouſed the intereſt of Lady Jane Gray; for this, and the leading part he had taken in eſtabliſhing the reformed religion, he was immediately marked out as an object of Queen Mary's vengeance, and

though on his ſubmiſſion, he was pardoned for his politics, nothing could atone for his conduct with reſpect to religion; he, together with Ridley and Latimer, was condemned for hereſy; and though in cloſe cuſtody, cited to appear at Rome; on his non-appearance, Bonner and Thirlby were ordered to degrade him, this was done with every aggravation of inſult and indignity; he was next thrown into a dungeon, and there, through flatteries, promiſes, and the fear of death, he gave way to the frailty of human nature, and ſigned his renunciation of the proteſtant doctrines. It was, however, perfectly incompatible with the Queen's natural diſpoſition, or her bigotted prejudices, to ſhew mercy to a heretic; his recantation was circulated through the kingdom in order to mortify and degrade him in the eyes of the nation. A writ was ſent for his execution at Oxford; he was burned before Baliol college, firſt thruſting the hand into the flames which had ſigned his renunciation, crying out frequently, "this hand hath offended, this unworthy hand," and died

calmly and reſolutely, maintaining the proteſtant tenets to his laſt breath, March 21, 1554.

Thus fell Cranmer, the greateſt ornament, and the firmeſt ſupport of the reformed religion; meek, candid, learned, and pious; the patron of men of ſcience, and the warm encourager of merit wherever he found it. It muſt, however, be confeſſed, that it will not be eaſy to juſtify his ſuggeſting to Edward VI. the proſecution of a man for his religious opinions, nor the extreme flexibility of his conduct in concurrence with Henry's wiſhes to divorce Catharine; we can only lament, that a character ſo exalted in moſt other reſpects, ſhould be ſoiled by blemiſhes of a kind that admit of no extenuation.

ADMIRAL BLAKE,

1598 to 1659,

WAS the ſon of a merchant at Bridgewater, and born there in the year 1598. He was ſent early to Oxford, where he took a bachelor's degree. He had diſtinguiſhed himſelf for arraigning, in a bold and blunt manner, the ſeverity of Archbiſhop Laud's diſcipline; and was elected by the Puritan party member for Bridgewater in 1640. At the breaking out of the civil war, he declared for the parliament, and diſtinguiſhed himſelf at the ſiege of Briſtol, and many parts in the weſt; notwithſtanding this, he firmly oppoſed the King's trial. After the death of the monarch, he was appointed to the command of the fleet, and blocked up Prince Rupert, in Kinſale harbour, for four months. The Prince at length forced his way

out, with the loſs of three ſhips, and took ſhelter at Liſbon, where Blake followed him, and, on the King of Portugal's giving orders for the Prince's protection, Blake, by way of retaliation, took a large fleet bound from Brazil richly laden; the Prince at length eſcaped from the Tagus, and got into the port of Malaga, where his whole fleet, except two ſhips, were taken or deſtroyed by the Britiſh admiral, who, on his return, received the thanks of the parliament, and was made warden of the Cinque Ports. In 1652 he reduced the iſle of Guernſey, which, till then, had held out for the King.

In the enſuing year the war broke out between the two commonwealths of England and Holland; Van Tromp, De Ruyter, and De Witt commanding the Dutch, and Blake the Engliſh fleet; and as an inſtance how much leſs deſtructive the ſea-fights of thoſe days were, when compared to our modern engagements, theſe gallant admirals fought upwards of five hours in the Downs, with the loſs of only fif-

teen men on the ſide of the Engliſh. Some ſubſequent actions, indeed, were more bloody, and with various ſucceſs, till the Dutch were completely defeated off Calais, in June 1652. Blake's name was equally terrible to the Spaniards, whoſe harbours he inſulted and burned their fleets, particularly a large one, conſiſting of men of war and rich merchant ſhips, in the port of Santa Cruz, in 1657. All the piratical ſtates of the Mediterranean ſtood in awe of his proweſs; the Dey of Tunis, venturing to refuſe the ſatisfaction Blake required of him, was reduced to the humiliation of ſeeing his caſtles deſtroyed, and his fleet burnt in the harbour. At length his conſtitution being worn out by long and hard ſervices, he yielded to the dropſy and ſcurvy, and died on board the St. George as he was entering Plymouth Sound, in 1659, aged fifty-nine years; and was, by Cromwell's order, buried with great pomp in Henry the Seventh's chapel in Weſtminſter Abbey. At the Reſtoration, however, his body was taken up by the

expreſs command of Charles II. and thrown into a pit in St. Margaret's church-yard.

Blake was the firſt ſeaman who brought ſhips to contemn caſtles on ſhore, and afforded in himſelf a wonderful inſtance that the naval ſcience might be learned in much leſs time than is generally imagined, as he ſerved ſeveral years in the army, and was far advanced in life before he commenced the profeſſion of a ſeaman.

SIR FRANCIS WALSINGHAM,

SECRETARY OF STATE,

1536 to 1590,

WAS the deſcendant of a reputable family, and born in 1536. His education was at King's college, Cambridge, from whence his friends ſent him into foreign parts, where his reſidence probably prevented him falling a victim to the bigotted zeal of Queen Mary. On the acceſſion of Elizabeth he returned. His political information, his clear and extenſive knowledge in the legiſlations, manners, and cuſtoms of the different nations of Europe, could not fail of attracting Sir William Cecil's notice, who ſoon employed him as the Queen's ambaſſador in France; on his return, he was, on Cecil's promotion, made ſecretary of ſtate, in which ſituation he diſ-

played eminent ſagacity in unravelling domeſtic conſpiracies, and diving into the ſecret deſigns of the principal powers of Europe. In 1578 he was ſent to Holland, and was very inſtrumental in the formation of the alliance of the Seven Provinces, ſtiled the union of Utrecht; on his return he was ſent ambaſſador again to France to negotiate the marriage between the Queen and the Duke of Anjou, but Henry III. rejected the propoſals, and the deſign was relinquiſhed. On every occaſion where political ſkill and penetration were neceſſary, Walſingham was uſually employed; and, as one eminently qualified in theſe points, he was diſpatched into Scotland with the double view of removing the Earl of Arran from James's confidence, and of aſcertaining the real character of the Scottiſh king; his literature could not fail to recommend him to James's attention, as it gave the King an opportunity of diſplaying his own range of ſcholaſtic learning. When Walſingham had finiſhed his errand, his ſagacity was next ſucceſsfully employed in unravelling Babington's plot againſt Elizabeth's life. Nor was it

leſs to the honour of his virtue and humanity that he ſtrenuouſly oppoſed Leceiſter's wiſh to deſtroy the Queen of Scots by poiſon. When the immenſe preparations were made in Spain, for the invaſion of England, in 1587, and the object of the armament was ſtill a matter of doubt, this ſubtle ſtateſman left no means unemployed to make himſelf maſter of that ſecret; and found that the King of Spain had written a letter with his own hand to the Pope, explaining the deſign of his preparations, and begging his holineſs's bleſſing on the enterprize; this letter, by the aſſiſtance of a Venetian prieſt, Walſingham obtained a copy of, the prieſt having bribed a gentleman of the Pope's bedchamber to ſteal the key of his holineſs's cabinet, while he ſlept, which put the prieſt in poſſeſſion of the original letter. In conſequence of this information, he cauſed the Spaniſh bills to be proteſted at Genoa, which city was to have ſupplied them with money for their preparations, and thus happily retarded the accompliſhment of the deſign for a whole year. This, I believe, was the laſt public tranſaction of importance that he was engaged

in. It muſt not, however, be omitted that he was an active promoter of the navigation and commerce of his country both as a miniſter and as a private individual; ſo liberal was he ever of his purſe, in the encouragement of all meaſures tending to the national advantage, that to this, and not to any profuſion in his domeſtic expenſes, may be aſcribed his dying ſo poor, as not to leave money ſufficient to defray the charges of his funeral. He died in 1590; and though the above circumſtance attending his death might impreſs us with a juſt ſenſe of the miniſter's diſintereſtedneſs, it certainly gives us no very exalted idea of his royal miſtreſs's munificence.

CHARLES HOWARD,

EARL OF NOTTINGHAM, LORD HIGH ADMIRAL,

1536 to 1624

WAS the ſon of Thomas Howard, Lord Effingham. He was born in 1536, and was bred to the ſea ſervice under his father, who was likewiſe Lord High Admiral. As early as the age of twenty-three, the Queen ſent him ambaſſador to Charles IX. and, on his return, made him general of horſe, in which capacity he ſignalized himſelf in ſuppreſſing the rebellion raiſed by the Earls of Northumberland and Weſtmoreland; and on the death of the the Earl of Lincoln, 1585, he was appointed Lord High Admiral. Never was a time that called for exertion of great talents more than this period. Philip II. had planned his gigantic enterprize to enſlave England, and ſub-

vert the proteſtant religion, he had likewiſe the pope's ſanction to take poſſeſſion of Elizabeth's crown, ſhe having been depoſed by the bulls of Popes Pius and Gregory XIII. The Engliſh fleet was in a very humble ſtate, twenty-ſeven ſhips, none exceeding 100 tons, made the whole of its force; by the exertions of the High Admiral, the maſculine activity of the Queen, and the zealous loyalty of the public, this number was increaſed to forty-three completely armed and victualled, before the arrival of the Spaniſh armada. This immenſe armament appeared off Plymouth, July 19, 1588; Lord Effingham ſuffered them to paſs him, and then fell on the rear; the difference was not greater in the number than in the ſize of the veſſels: the Spaniſh were large and heavy, and obeyed their helms with difficulty; the Engliſh were comparatively ſmall, but had every advantage in activity, ſailing, and ſteering. The prudent Effingham availed himſelf of this ſuperiority; he, with his gallant ſeconds, Drake, Hawkins, and Frobiſher, harraſſed them from Plymouth to the Streights of Calais, where, as the

Spaniards lay at anchor, the Engliſh admiral ſent eight of his ſhips, filled with combuſtibles, amongſt them in the night, this (the firſt attempt of the kind) had the deſired effect; in a ſhort ſpace all was diſmay and confuſion, ſome blew up, others cut their cables and ran out to ſea, and ſo complete was their diſperſion, that their dreams of conqueſt gave way to providing for their own ſafety; this they attempted by endeavouring to run to the northward of the iſland, but ſtorms and defeats ſo thinned their numbers and humbled their arrogance, that out of 130 ſail only fifty-four arrived in Spain. After this glorious victory, to which the active valour, cool judgment, and inventive genius, of the Lord High Admiral had ſo eminently contributed, he was received by the Queen and the nation with every mark of honour and applauſe. His next important ſervice was the conqueſt of Cadiz, in 1596, for which he was created (as his patent ſpecified) Earl of Nottingham; hence originated the quarrel between him and the Earl of Eſſex; and here the hero gave way to the ſubtle, jealous, relentleſs cour-

tier. There is too much reaſon to believe that the ring which Elizabeth gave Eſſex, to be uſed as a pledge of ſubmiſſive affection whenever the violence of his temper might have hurried him into ſuch acts that ſhould excite the Queen's indignation; there are grounds, I ſay, to believe, that this token of affection and repentance was ſtopped in its way to Elizabeth by the machinations of the Earl of Nottingham.

After the death of the Queen, which the above circumſtance was generally ſuppoſed to have accelerated, the Earl was Lord High Steward at the coronation of James I. He was likewiſe ſent on an embaſſy to Spain; on his return, he reſigned his office of Lord High Admiral to Villiers, duke of Buckingham; and died at his ſeat in the country in 1624.

ALEXANDER FARNESE,

DUKE OF PARMA AND PLACENTIA,

1546 to 1592,

WAS the ſon of Octavius Farneſe, duke of Parma, and of Margaret, natural daughter of the Emperor Charles V. He was educated at the court of his uncle Philip II. and was preſent at the memorable battle of Lepanto at the early age of eighteen, where he conducted himſelf with ſo much courage and prudence, that Don John of Auſtria, who commanded there, declared he would one day make a great officer. At this time the Netherlands, grievouſly oppreſſed by the tyranny and bigotry of Philip II. were in a ſtate of inſurrection, Margaret, the mother of Farneſe, was governeſs, and if her lenient meaſures had not been counteracted by the furious and abſurd policy of Philip, it is pro-

bable that the provinces would have been reduced to obedience; but the Duke of Alva, the worthy delegate of ſo inflexible a tyrant, would liſten to no propoſals but ſuch as coincided with his ſanguinary and mercileſs diſpoſition. In this ſtate of things, after Don John of Auſtria had fruitleſly endeavoured to eſtabliſh order, the Duke of Parma ſucceeded him in the government, in 1578: his military achievements were brilliant; he conquered Artois, Hainault, Brabant and Flanders; he laid ſiege to Antwerp, which he reduced after a year's reſiſtance; and probably would have accompliſhed the total ſubjection of the Low Countries, if Philip had not very impoliticly withdrawn him to take part with the leaguers in France; he there met with a repulſe, and making an excellent retreat through Champagne, in the face of a ſuperior army under Henry IV. he was wounded, and died at Arras, 1592, aged forty-ſix years; and to the triumph of bigotry, ſuch influence had the ſpirit of the times over ſo vigorous a mind, that he gave orders for his interment at Parma in the habit of a Capuchin.

HENRY OF LORRAIN,

DUKE OF GUISE, SURNAMED BALAFRE'.

1550 to 1588.

HENRY of Lorrain, one of the handſomeſt, wittieſt, moſt courageous, and eloquent men of his time, was the eldeſt ſon of Francis, Duke of Guiſe, and born in 1550: as ſoon as he was able to bear arms, he ſerved in Hungary and in France, and gave unqueſtionable proofs of his valour and capacity; at the famous battle of Jarnac, in 1569, he commanded the rear guard; and ſome time after, in an action near Chateau Thierry, he received a deſperate wound in the cheek, which was the cauſe of his being ever after known by the diſtinctive epithet Balafré. The elegance of his perſon, and his brilliant qualities, engaged the affections of Madame Margaret of France; but Charles IX. whoſe

object was to marry that princeſs to the King of Navarre, determined, in order to remove all obſtacles, that Guiſe ſhould be aſſaſſinated; the Duke having notice of the King's intention, to appeaſe his anger, and to evade the threatened blow, married Catharine of Cleves, daughter of the Duke of Nevers, and immediately after put himſelf at the head of the army of the celebrated league which had been projected by his uncle the Cardinal of Lorrain; after having obtained many ſignal advantages over the Calviniſts, an over-weening conſciouſneſs of his own merits, prompted him to demand ſuch returns for his ſervices, that Henry III. indignantly ordered him to quit Paris; he obeyed, but ſoon re-entered in triumph, and forced the monarch in his turn to flee from his capital; the King reduced to yield to ſuperior force, had recourſe to the baſe and horrid reſolution to procure the Duke's aſſaſſination; under the pretence, therefore, of adjuſting the grounds of quarrel betwixt them, he ſignified his deſire to hold a friendly conference with the Duke at Blois, where the ſtates were then held; the day after his arrival, Guiſe

was murdered as he was entering the room where the King held his court; the Cardinal of Guiſe, his brother, ſhared the ſame fate the next day, and likewiſe by the royal command: theſe vile deeds were perpetrated December 23 and 24, 1588, when the Duke was in the thirty-eighth year of his age.

CHARLES OF LORRAIN.

DUKE OF GUISE,

1571 to 1640.

WAS the eldeſt ſon of Balafré, and was born in 1571; he was arreſted on the day his father was aſſaſſinated, and confined many years in the caſtle of Tours; he made his eſcape from this confinement in 1591, and was received at Paris with ſuch demonſtrations of joy by the leaguers, that it was ſuppoſed they would have raiſed him to the throne, but for the jealouſy of his uncle the Duke of Mayenne. Three years after he ſubmitted himſelf to Henry IV. and obtained from that monarch the government of Provence: under Lewis XIII. likewiſe he was intruſted with high military employments; but the Cardinal Richelieu, who looked with a jealous eye on the power and authority of the houſe

of Guiſe, drove him from his commands, and obliged him to retire to Cuna in the Siennois, where he died, in 1640. He married Henrietta Catharine de Joyeuſe, and left ſeveral children. Marechal de Baſſompiere has written a fine panegyric on this prince.

JOHN FISHER,

BISHOP OF ROCHESTER,

1459 to 1535.

WAS born at Beverley in Yorkſhire, in 1459; his father was a merchant, who dying early in life, the ſon by the care of his mother was firſt ſent to Beverley ſchool, and thence to Cambridge, where he became fellow of Trinity college, and proctor of the univerſity in 1495: his reputation for learning and piety recommended him to Margaret, counteſs of Richmond, mother of Henry VII. who made him her confeſſor, and committed herſelf entirely to his direction; by his counſel that princeſs laid the foundations of thoſe ſuperb edifices, St. John's and Chriſt's colleges, Cambridge; eſtabliſhed the divinity profeſſorſhip in both univerſities; and did many other acts

for the promotion of ſcience and religion. He was made Biſhop of Rocheſter, which preferment, though then the pooreſt biſhopric in England, he conſtantly refuſed to change for a wealthier. "He never would quit his little "old wife, he ſaid, for one that was richer."

On Luther's firſt appearance in 1517, Fiſher was one of his moſt zealous opponents; he likewiſe adhered ſo firmly to the doctrine of the Pope's ſupremacy, and to the Queen's cauſe in the buſineſs of the divorce, as alienated the King's favor from him, and finally brought about his ruin: his attachment to truth, or what he conceived to be truth, was ſuch, that nothing could induce him to ſwerve from its intereſts; the dread of the King's anger, nor the ſunſhine of his ſmiles, did never, as in Cranmer, in a ſingle inſtance, either terrify or cajole him into an unworthy action. On the ſuppreſſion of the leſſer monaſteries in 1529, the Duke of Norfolk, on ſomething that fell from the Biſhop, obſerved, "*that the greateſt clerks were* "*not always the wiſeſt men.*" To which Fiſher

replied, "My lord, *I do not remember any fools "in my time that ever proved great clerks.*" Soon after he narrowly eſcaped being poiſoned, and afterwards being ſhot in his own houſe: one Rouſe had got admiſſion into his kitchen, and in the cook's abſence put poiſon in the broth, by ſome accident the Biſhop eat none that day, but of ſeventeen perſons that did, ſome died ſoon after, and the reſt never recovered their health; the other eſcape was from a cannon ball, which went through his ſtudy as he was ſitting in it.

When the great queſtion of the King's ſupremacy was debated in convocation in 1531, the Biſhop ſo ſtrenuouſly oppoſed it, that Henry from that moment determined on his ruin; and on the oath being offered to him which had been enacted by parliament, in which allegiance was ſworn to the King and his heirs by Anne Boleyn, he refuſed to take it, and was in conſequence committed to the Tower. Unfortunately for him, while in this ſituation, Pope Paul III. as a token of his approbation of his

conduct, ſent him the unſeaſonable honor of a cardinal's hat, and Henry having heard that the Biſhop ſaid, he ſhould receive it on his knees, exclaimed in a violent paſſion, "*Yea, is "he yet ſo luſty! well, let the Pope ſend him a hat "when he will, mother of God, he ſhall wear it on "his ſhoulders tho', for I will leave him never a "head to ſet it on.*" As no legal advantage, however, could be taken againſt him, he was entrapped by the following treachery: Rich, the ſolicitor-general, a proper tool for ſuch an infamous tranſaction, was ſent under the pretence of conſulting him as from the King, on the tender point of the ſupremacy, with the moſt ſolemn aſſurances, that no advantage ſhould be taken againſt him for the free delivery of his opinion, and that he, (the meſſenger Rich) had authority to engage the King's honor, that no peril ſhould enſue to him on a candid expoſition of his ſentiments; Fiſher was caught in the ſnare, and pronounced Henry's ſupremacy to be unlawful. There appears ſuch a mixture of fraud, cruelty, and injuſtice in this proceeding, as would have con-

taminated the character of even Tiberius himſelf; yet, of theſe means did a king avail himſelf, to deſtroy a virtuous, pious, and learned man; a king, who under the affectation of ſcrupulous morality, indulged himſelf in the moſt enormous exceſſes; and who, under the pretence of enforcing the metaphyſical dogmas of religion, gave way to a furious unrelenting temper, in the perſecution of whatever oppoſed his pride or his prejudice.

The Biſhop was tried, found guilty of high-treaſon, and was beheaded, 22 June, 1535, and the next day his head was ſet on London bridge.

I ſhall conclude what has been ſaid of this eminent prelate, by the following quotation from Eraſmus: *Aut egregie fallor, aut is vir unus eſt, cum quo nemo ſit hac tempeſtate conferendus, vel integritate vitæ, vel eruditione, vel animi magnitudine.*

JOHN DUDLEY,

DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND,

† 1553.

WAS the ſon of Edmund Dudley, one of the infamous agents of Henry VII. By the attainder and execution of the father, in 1510, his ſon John was deprived of his inheritance, which, however, was reſtored to him about four years after by Henry VIII. who likewiſe created him Lord Dudley, and Viſcount Liſle; he alſo honored him with ſeveral employments, which he diſcharged to the King's ſatisfaction. While acting as lieutenant-general under the Earl of Hertford, in Picardy and Scotland, great part of the ſucceſs was aſcribed to Dudley's conduct. Afterwards he diſtinguiſhed himſelf as governor of Boulogne, in repulſing the French who aſſaulted the town; nor was his courage and prudence leſs conſpicuous in his command of the

fleet; to theſe qualifications he added the eaſy inſinuating manners of a courtier: to which, as much as to his intrinſic merit, may be imputed his acquiſition of the title of Earl of Warwick. But theſe qualities were obſcured by vices of the deepeſt die: he was ambitious in the extreme, inſatiably covetous, a ſubverter and contemner of every principle of juſtice and even decency. Theſe baſe motives prompted him to the ruin of Lord Seymour, the raſhneſs of whoſe temper he inſidiouſly ſtimulated to acts of violence, that by driving him on to his deſtruction, he might remove one obſtacle, at leaſt, to his ambition and aggrandizement. Nor was he leſs active in promoting the downfall of the protector Somerſet. Dudley had been named by Henry VIII. as one of the regency during the minority of Edward VI. and was among the firſt to delegate the greater part of their joint authority to the Earl of Hertford, the King's maternal uncle, now created Duke of Somerſet. This nobleman's capacity was certainly not equal to his ambition; and Warwick, in conjunction with Lord South-

ampton, reſolved on his ruin. The nobility were not averſe to the meaſure; they looked on Somerſet as one who encouraged the people to encroach on their privileges. Warwick, therefore, found no great difficulty in removing him from the regency; content, however, with having humbled ſo powerful a rival, he re-admitted him into the council, and even formed an alliance between their families, by marrying his ſon, Lord Dudley, to Lady Jane Seymour, Somerſet's daughter. On the extinction of the title of Earl of Northumberland, by the laſt Earl's dying without iſſue, and by the attainder of his brother, the eſtate of that family veſted in the crown. Theſe poſſeſſions, together with the honor of the dukedom, Warwick had the addreſs to procure. But neither dignities nor riches could ſatisfy his mind, while Somerſet lived to reproach him with ingratitude, or endanger a participation of his power, as a rival. His death was, therefore, determined on. The unfortunate nobleman was accuſed of an attempt to raiſe inſurrections, and of plotting againſt Northumberland's life; after a

partial trial, he was condemned to death, and care was taken by Northumberland's emiſſaries to exclude every application to the young King in his uncle's behalf, till their cruel purpoſe ſhould be accompliſhed. A new expedient was next adopted by the miniſter to enſure him a parliament on whoſe attachment he could rely; circular letters were ſent through the kingdom, as a ſort of *congé d'elire*, recommending to, or rather commanding, the electors to chooſe the perſons the court condeſcended to favor. By theſe means a parliament was aſſembled that ſhewed no ſcrupulouſneſs in adopting whatever views Northumberland's pride or avarice ſuggeſted to him. But the great object of his ambition remained yet to be accompliſhed; he had perſuaded the young monarch that as his ſiſters, Mary and Elizabeth, were but of the half blood, and had been declared illegitimate by parliament, and that as the Queen of Scots was excluded by the King's will, the right of ſucceſſion devolved to the Marchioneſs of Dorſet, eldeſt daughter to the French Queen, and the Duke of Suffolk,

that the next heir to the marchioneſs, was Lady Jane Gray, whoſe title might be more fully eſtabliſhed by letters patent from the King. His next artifice was to procure the dukedom of Suffolk for the Marquis of Dorſet, (two ſons of the late duke having died of the ſweating ſickneſs) and then to gain his conſent to the marriage of the Marquis's daughter, Lady Jane, with Lord Guilford Dudley, Northumberland's fourth ſon. Nothing now remained but to gain over the council and judges, this, by threats and promiſes, at length was accompliſhed, and he graſped in idea the magnificent reward of the moſt barefaced wickedneſs, in conjunction with the darkeſt policy. In July 1553 Edward died. Every method was purſued by Northumberland to enſure the ſucceſſion to Lady Jane and his ſon; he marched at the head of 6000 men againſt Mary, who had taken up arms in ſupport of her pretenſions; but obſerving, as he paſſed, the diſaffection of the people to his cauſe, "Many," ſaid he to Lord Grey, "come out to look at us, but none cry, "God ſpeed you." His army diſperſing, he

was ſeized, and behaved as abjectly in his adverſity as he had been inſolent in the zenith of his power. He was executed Auguſt 21, 1553, and as Somerſet, the victim of his cruelty and ambition, had been followed to the ſcaffold by the tears and bleſſings of the people, Northumberland fell unlamented by the ſpectators, who conſidered his puniſhment as a due atonement for his wicked ambition, and as a juſt retribution for the ignominious death to which he had brought his unhappy rival.

GEORGE CLIFFORD,

EARL OF CUMBERLAND,

WAS deſcended from the ancient family of that name, and born at Brougham caſtle in Weſtmoreland, in 1558. He was educated at Cambridge, under the celebrated John Whitgift, afterwards archbiſhop of Canterbury, but the ardour of his mind prompting him to more active purſuits than learned leiſure or civil occupations preſented to him, he fitted out a ſmall fleet, partly for the purpoſe of diſcovery, and partly with a view to thoſe predatory undertakings which ſo much characteriſed the times he lived in. In the ever-memorable victory over the Spaniſh armada in 1588, he was among the firſt to diſtinguiſh himſelf, and afterwards made ten different voyages to annoy and plunder the Spaniſh ſettlements; though

the prizes he took, however, were many and rich, yet by the building and fitting out his ſhips, his great expenſes in tilting and horſe-racing, he waſted much of his family eſtate. Elizabeth ſeems to have contributed little more than her countenance to any of the charges of the undertakings, as the bountiful donation of a glove, which ſhe affected to drop by accident and which Clifford picked up, appears to be the only gift ſhe conferred upon him, this ſhe begged him to wear as a mark of her eſteem, adapting the preſent at once to *his* ambition and *her own* avarice. This glove, ornamented with diamonds, he wore on his high-crowned hat on the days of tournaments. There is a fine print of him, by White, with this decoration. He was made knight of the garter in 1592, and in 1601 was one of the lords ſent to reduce the Earl of Eſſex to obedience. When the gallant old knight, Sir Henry Lea, with much ſolemnity reſigned his office of champion to the Queen, her majeſty conferred the honour on the Earl of Cumberland, and Mr. Walpole has given an entertaining account

of his inveſtiture; the magnificent armour he wore on theſe occaſions is now preſerved at Appleby caſtle. As the qualities, however, that make heroes do not always form them for domeſtic happineſs, it appears that he lived with Margaret, his counteſs, (from whoſe pen many writings are extant) in a ſtate of cold reſerve and diſunion, and died at the Savoy, in London, in 1605, leaving an only daughter, named Anne, afterwards married to Richard, earl of Dorſet; this lady appears to have inherited all the high romantic ſpirit of her father. It may not be quite foreign to the preſent purpoſe to repeat here her celebrated anſwer to Sir James Williamſon, ſecretary of ſtate to Charles II. who had ventured, probably in a dictatorial manner, to recommend a candidate to her for the borough of Appleby.

" *I HAVE been bullied by an uſurper,*
" *I have been neglected by a court, but I will not*
" *be dictated to by a ſubject, your man ſha'n't ſtand.*

ANNE, DORSET, PEMBROKE,
and MONTGOMERY.

Mr. Walpole ſays that this lady wrote memoirs of her firſt huſband, the Earl of Dorſet, but there is reaſon to believe he was miſtaken; ſhe left, however, this character of him in writing: "This firſt lord of mine was, in his own "nature, of a juſt mind, of a ſweet diſpoſition, "and very valiant in his own perſon; he had "great advantage in his breeding by the wiſ-"dom and devotion of his grandfather, Tho-"mas Sackville, earl of Dorſet, and lord high "treaſurer, who was one of the wiſeſt men of "that time, by which means he was ſo good "a ſcholar in all manner of learning, that in "his youth, when he was in the univerſity of "Oxford, there were none of the young no-"bility that excelled him; he was alſo a good "patriot to his country, and generally beloved "in it; much eſteemed of by all the parlia-"ments that ſat in his time; and ſo great a "lover of ſcholars and ſoldiers, as that with "an exceſſive bounty towards them or indeed "any of worth that were in diſtreſs, he did "much diminiſh his eſtate, as alſo with exceſ-"ſive prodigality in houſekeeping, and other

" noble ways at court, as tilting, maſquing, and
" the like; Prince Henry being then alive, who
" was much addicted to thoſe noble exerciſes,
" and of whom he was much beloved."

JOHN WICKLIFF,

1324 to 1384,

WAS born in the biſhopric of Durham in 1324, and educated at Oxford; he may be conſidered as having prepared the minds of men in ſome meaſure, for the reformation effected by Luther 150 years afterward: the ſeculars of his college choſe him for their head, this choice was oppoſed by the monks who eſpouſed the intereſt of a regular; Wickliff's party prevailing, drove the monks from the college, who made their appeal to Cardinal Langham; the cardinal favored their cauſe, and ordered Wickliff to reſign; on his refuſal, Langham ſequeſtered the revenues of the college. The affair was then laid before Pope Urban V. who confirmed the cardinal's ſentence, and ordered Wickliff and his followers to quit the college,

and make ſatisfaction to the monks. He then retired from Oxford to his living of Lutterworth in Leiceſterſhire, with his diſgrace deeply impreſſed on his mind; under this impreſſion, he ſet about inquiring of the origin of the Pope's authority in temporalities; theſe inquiries, in ſome degree, were countenanced by the king, nobles, and people; by the king as his power was abridged by eccleſiaſtic authority, by the nobles who wiſhed for a ſhare in the church revenues, and by the people to exonerate themſelves of the burthen of Peter's pence: the books of Marſilius of Padua, and others, who had written againſt the temporal power of the church, furniſhed him with arguments; theſe he urged in writing and preaching againſt the juriſdiction of the Pope and the biſhops. As ſoon as theſe doctrines began to ſpread, Simon Sudbury, archbiſhop of Canterbury, aſſembled a council at Lambeth, and cited Wickliff to appear; he obeyed; being accompanied by the Duke of Lancaſter, and to this nobleman's preſence, more than to his own attempts at juſtification, might he have been probably indebted for

his acquittal. Pope Gregory, hearing of Wickliff's doctrines, wrote to the Engliſh biſhops to cite him again, and at the ſame time ſent them ſome of his propoſitions which his holineſs pronounced erroneous; but the great men and the people ſtood forward ſo ſtrenuouſly in his behalf, that the churchmen were again foiled, and ventured no farther than enjoining him ſilence. It may be a matter of curioſity to extract ſome of the tenets of Wickliff, which Urban condemned, but which, nevertheleſs, met with the general aſſent of thoſe who at that time had ſtrength of mind ſufficient to think for themſelves.

2. Papa Romanus non habet majorem poteſtatem in clavibus eccleſiæ quam quiſque alius in ordine ſacerdotis conſtitutus.

5. Evangelium ſufficit ad regulandum in vitâ iſta quemlibet Chriſtianum et aliæ obſervantæ addunt nihil plus perfectionis quam addit albedo parieti.

7. Deus non poteſt dare homini pro ſe et hæredibus ſuis perpetuum civile dominium.

18. Si jura Anglicæ eſſent debite executa, major pars bonorum fortunæ in manibus religioſorum eſſent diſſoluta.

27. Decimæ ſunt puræ eleemoſynæ et in caſu quo curati fuerunt mali poſſunt licitè eas aliis conferre.

30. Si homo fuerit debitè contritus omnis confeſſio exterior eſt ſibi ſuperflua et inutilis.

32. Quod tempore Pauli ſufficiebant duo ordines clericorum ſacerdotes et diaconi.

39. Populares poſſunt ad arbitrium ſuum dominos delinquentes corrigere.

In theſe articles, ſays Walſingham, is contained a levelling ſcheme in church and ſtate; but others, who ſee not with the eyes of Walſingham, may diſcover in them the

germs of thoſe principles, on which Luther afterwards grounded the reformation: the 7th and 39th articles, too, contain truths that are the fundamental maxims of every government, the baſis of which is civil libery.

Wickliff died at his living of Lutterworth, in 1384; and left many books for the eſtabliſhment of his doctrines, hardly any of them, however, have deſcended to poſterity; the council of Conſtance, aſſembled in 1414, condemned his doctrines, forbade the reading of his books, declared him a heretic, and ordered his bones to be dug up and thrown out of holy ground: but reaſon and truth, however oppoſed or oppreſſed, will continue their ſlow and ſilent progreſs, and ultimately triumph over the darkneſs of bigotry, and the reſtraints of deſpotiſm.

ALPHONSO D'AVALOS,

MARQUIS DE GUASTO,

WAS lieutenant-general of the armies of the Emperor Charles V. in Italy, and knight of the golden fleece; he followed the Emperor in his expedition to Tunis, and was afterwards ambaſſador to the Venetian republic; he obliged the Duke d'Enghien to raiſe the ſiege of Nice, in 1543, but loſt the battle of Ceriſoles, in 1544. He died in 1546, aged forty-two years.

ROGER BACON,

CALLED FRIAR BACON,

1214 to 1294,

THE wonder of his age, and one of the greateſt luminaries in ſcience, that this, or any other country ever produced, was born near Ilcheſter in Somerſetſhire, in 1214; after being initiated at Oxford, he purſued his ſtudies in the univerſity of Paris, as it was then cuſtomary for many who had received their early rudiments in other ſeminaries. On his return to England he took the habit of the Franciſcans, but far from confining his inquiries to the abſurd theology of the times, his vaſt mind embraced univerſal ſcience, he was convinced of the futility of *that* knowledge which was not grounded on experiment; he, therefore, applied himſelf to the moſt aſſiduous and vigorous inveſtigations;

pure mathematics, aſtronomy, medicine, chemiſtry, optics, and even judicial aſtrology were ſtudied and diſcuſſed by him with wonderful ability: but the bulk of mankind, and even the higher orders, were then too far immerſed in the darkneſs of ignorance and ſuperſtition, to ſet a juſt value on talents ſo far beyond the limits of the powers of their own minds. Among the monks, what was firſt the object of their admiration, ſoon became the victim of their bigotry and envy; deciding by the meaſure of their own narrow faculties, they inferred, that ſuch acquiſitions as Bacon's could not be the reſult of intellect or ſtudies, unaſſiſted by ſupernatural aid, they, therefore, reſolved that the devil was his inſtructor, and that the intereſts of religion required that he ſhould be put into a cloſe and rigorous impriſonment; probably his obſervations on the immoral lives of the clergy, and his intimacy with Biſhop Groſtete, who had ventured to call the Pope, Antichriſt, might have contributed to have quickened the reſentment of that irritable body. At the deſire of Pope Cle-

ment IV. he collected his ſeveral pieces; this work, called his Opus Majus, is ſtill extant; it remained in manuſcript till the year 1733, when the learned Dr. Jebb gave an edition of it. It is curious to obſerve, that many chemical diſcoveries, the honor of which has been aſſumed by modern profeſſors, are to be traced to Bacon; Monſ. Homberg's experiments deſcribed in the Memoires de l'Academie des Sciences in 1705, for the production of gold, are all to be found in his works; his aſſertion is, that mercury is the baſis of all metals, and ſulphur the cement; gunpowder he certainly knew; thunder and lightning he ſaid might be produced by art, for that ſulphur, nitre, and charcoal, when mixed and cloſely confined, and fired, will yield a loud report; he was likewiſe no ſtranger to the rarefaction of the air, and the principles of the air pump; his deſcription of the powers of the teleſcope, of burning and reading glaſſes, and microſcopes, all of which he made himſelf, leave no doubt of his knowledge of their powers, or of their ſtructure. His ſkill in aſtronomy was ſuch,

that he diſcovered the error, the correcting of which furniſhed Pope Gregory with the plan for his calendar. His immenſe talents, however, were diſcloſed at too early a period for his own tranquillity, or the advancement of ſcience; his cotemporaries could receive little or no advantage from purſuits ſo far exceeding the contracted ſcope of their own information; and they conſidered it as a ſort of apology for their own ignorance, to perſecute a man as a magician, whom they could not underſtand as a philoſopher. After an impriſonment of ten years, this prodigy obtained his releaſe, and ſpent the remainder of his days at Oxford, where he expired June 11, 1294.

STEPHEN GARDINER,

BISHOP OF WINCHESTER,

1483 to 1555,

WAS the illegitimate ſon of Dr. Lionel Woodville, biſhop of Saliſbury, brother to Elizabeth, queen conſort to Edward IV.; the Biſhop, in order to conceal his frailty, compelled Stephen's mother to marry an inferior ſervant of the name of Gardiner, from whom he took his name. After a common ſchool education, he was ſent to Trinity hall, Cambridge, where he ſoon diſtinguiſhed himſelf for his ſuperior ſkill in Greek and Latin compoſitions; he ſtudied likewiſe the canon and civil law; and was elected maſter of the college. A life of retirement, however, appearing too contracted for his views, he put himſelf under the protection of the Duke of Norfolk, and

ſoon after became ſecretary to Cardinal Wolſey, who employed him in drawing up the treaty of alliance with Francis I. The King happening to viſit Wolſey at More park in Hertfordſhire, where Gardiner was occupied in digeſting the treaty, was ſtruck with the manner in which it was performed, and more ſo with the extent of the young man's knowledge, and the ſolidity of his underſtanding. This proved the ſource of Gardiner's future greatneſs. Henry, as a mark of his confidence, ſent him to Rome to negotiate his divorce with Catharine. Wolſey, in his credentials, calls him, *dimidium ſui*, than whom none was dearer to him. His conduct in this negotiation raiſed him ſtill higher in the King's favor. At his return from Rome he received his firſt church preferment, as archdeacon of Norfolk. But the exerciſe of his talents in ſtate affairs drew his attention, for the preſent, from the purſuit of eccleſiaſtical dignities, and the King declared him ſecretary of ſtate; ſoon after this Gardiner introduced Cranmer to his Majeſty, which fortunate circumſtance extricated him from all the knotty diffi-

culties of the divorce; it eventually, however, cauſed the ruin of his patron, Wolſey; though much to Gardiner's honour, he omitted no ſolicitation or intreaty to moderate the King's anger towards Wolſey, and to re-inſtate him in his ſovereign's good graces. To manage the univerſity of Cambridge, ſo as to procure from it a declaration in ſupport of the divorce, was no eaſy taſk; this, however, he accompliſhed, and, as a recompenſe, was raiſed at once to the rich ſee of Wincheſter. In the year 1533 he was ſent ambaſſador to France; on his return, he wrote his treatiſe *De verâ obedientiâ*, in favour of the King's ſupremacy. After executing another embaſſy to the diet at Ratiſbon, the ſanguinary law of the ſix articles was paſſed and framed, certainly by Gardiner, the firſt ſymptom of that relentleſs, perſecuting temper, which afterwards ſo fatally characterized him. However he might, from political views, have been induced to acknowledge the King's ſupremacy, it ſufficiently appeared afterwards, that his compliance in this reſpect was profound diſſimulation; for, on the King's

threatening him with the conſequences of ſome information he had received of his duplicity on this queſtion, he confeſſed his error, and threw himſelf on Henry's mercy. It was certain that Gardiner was deeply concerned in the plot againſt Cranmer's life, which, though the archbiſhop afterwards forgave, was never forgotten by the King; who, notwithſtanding he withdrew from Gardiner much of his former confidence, did not ſcruple to uſe him as an engine in his plan to take away the life of his laſt queen, Catharine Parr; fortunately ſhe avoided the blow, and gained ſuch an aſcendancy over the furious mind of her huſband, that he baniſhed Gardiner ever after from his preſence. During the ſhort reign of Edward VI. he exerted himſelf in preventing the reformation, and on his refuſing to comply with the new homilies, was ſent priſoner to the Fleet in 1547. At his releaſe, however, the new eſtabliſhment having the ſanction of an act of parliament, he not only conformed to it, but took care that his dioceſe did the ſame. His enemies, not content with this ſubmiſſion,

procured an order for him to promulgate his tenets publicly in a ſermon, and though the matter was preſcribed to him by Sir William Cecil, he preached in ſuch flat contradiction to the ſubjects enjoined him, that he was ſent to the Tower, when refuſing, after repeated ſolicitations, to ſubſcribe to the King's ſupremacy, or to make his recantation of the ſix articles, he was deprived of his biſhopric by a court of delegates, at which Cranmer preſided. He was confined during the remainder of Edward's reign. Being releaſed on Mary's acceſſion, after five years impriſonment, was almoſt immediately made chancellor, and ſucceeded to the uncontrolled power of his old maſter, Wolſey. It has been a queſtion, whether Gardiner's perſecution of the Proteſtants proceeded from a ſanguinary diſpoſition and gloomy bigotry, the characteriſtics, certainly, of Queen Mary, or from motives of policy on a conviction that the principles, deemed heretical, were incompatible with the good order and ſtability of civil government; be that as it may, toward the end of his life he was both

tired and aſhamed of theſe bloody perſecutions, in conſequence of which ſuch as were confined in his dioceſe were conſigned to the mercies of Bonner. Though after the arrival of Cardinal Pole in England, Gardiner was ſecond only in the management of church affairs, his influence in civil matters continued undiminiſhed. About the latter end of the year 1555, after a ſhort illneſs, he died at Whitehall, aged ſeventy-two years. His character has been ſo extolled by the Catholics and ſo violently blackened by the Proteſtants, that the truth, as is uſual in ſuch matters, will be found in the middle. As to his moral qualities, he was generous, liberal, a promoter of ſuperior talents, and warm in his attachments; but, at the ſame time, haughty, ambitious, and a perfect diſſembler, and, if not ſanguinary in his own nature, the baſe tool of Mary's vengeance. His literary acquirements were great, and his conduct of affairs, foreign and domeſtic, was ſuch as gained him the reputation of a ſagacious politician. His countenance is ſaid to have been dark, his eyes ſunk, his noſe aquiline,

and his mouth wide. It is reported that he expreſſed great remorſe on his death-bed, and to have exclaimed, *Erravi cum Petro, ſed non flevi cum Petro.* His funeral was conducted with great pomp by Bonner, and he was buried in Wincheſter cathedral.

SIR JAMES WILFORD, KNT.

WAS born about 1515 in the early part of Henry the VIIIth's reign, and knighted with many others at Roxburgh, by the Duke of Somerſet, protector, in 1547. The Lord Grey having fortified Haddington in Scotland, and left 2000 ſoldiers in it, under the command of Sir James Wilford, returned with his army into England. The French and Scots beſieged the fortreſs, and reduced it to ſuch ſtraights, that according to Hollingſhed, "The Englyſhmen's "powder was ſore ſpent, and for want of "matches they were conſtrained to tear their "ſhirts and uſe the ſame, and if the noble "proweſſe of their worthie general, Sir James "Wilford, had not ſupported them, they muſt "have ſurrendered." The garriſon was, however, relieved by Lord Shrewſbury, who ſhed tears "that ſuch worthie ſouldiers ſhould ſuffer

he was then 32 yrs of age

"ſuch great diſtreſſe." Sir James ſome time after, eſcorting a convoy of proviſions into the fortreſs, was defied by ſome troops from Dunbar, when, "according to his wonted valiancie, "ſhewing himſelf egre and forward againſt the "enemy, he fell into an ambuſh, and was "taken by one Pellique a Gaſcon, who gained "great honor by taking ſo brave a man."

The place and time of his death are unknown.

THOMAS EGERTON,

BARON OF ELLESMERE,

1540 to 1616,

WAS the natural ſon of Sir Richard Egerton, of Ridley in Cheſhire, and born in that county about the year 1540; he was educated at Brazen Noſe college, Oxford, and removed from thence to Lincoln's-inn, where he ſoon became conſpicuous in the profeſſion of the law. In the the year 1591 he was made ſolicitor-general to Queen Elizabeth, and choſen the Lent reader in the ſame inn; in the year following he was made attorney-general, and knighted; ſoon after, maſter of the rolls, and then lord keeper of the great ſeal, in which office he remained throughout Elizabeth's reign. In 1603 he was advanced to the dignity of baron, by the title of Lord Elleſmere, and made lord chancellor of

England; and ſoon after, chancellor of Oxford, and Viſcount Brackley. He enjoyed theſe laſt honours but a ſhort time; feeling his health decline, and his incapability to diſcharge the duties of his office, he requeſted the King's (James I.) leave to retire, who ſent Secretary Wingate for the great ſeal, with this meſſage, that he himſelf would be the under keeper, and not diſpoſe of it, while his lordſhip lived to bear the name of chancellor. His poſterity now enjoy a large eſtate and the title of Dukes of Bridgewater. Wood ſays, "He was a moſt grave and pru-
"dent man, a good lawyer, juſt and honeſt,
"of ſo quick an apprehenſion alſo, and pro-
"found judgment, that none of the bench in
"his time went beyond him."

He died at York houſe in the Strand, in the year 1616, aged ſeventy-ſeven, and was buried at Dodleſtone in Cheſhire.

THOMAS CROMWELL,

EARL OF ESSEX,

1480 to 1540,

IS ſaid to have been the ſon of a blackſmith, and born at Putney in Surry, in 1480; the fame of his wit and judgment recommended him to the notice of Cardinal Wolſey, who employed him chiefly in the ſuppreſſion of the forty leſſer monaſteries, and in the erection of his colleges at Oxford and Ipſwich; the cardinal's patronage was the means of making Cromwell known to Henry VIII. who conceived ſo highly of him, as to make him maſter of the jewel office, and ſoon after to raiſe him to the dignities, ſucceſſively, of Baron Oakham, knight of the garter, and Earl of Eſſex, as well as lord high chamberlain, and the King's vicar-general for ſpiritual affairs. In this ſituation he prompted the King to ſuppreſs the remaining mo-

naſteries; in a caſe where Henry would wreſt ſo much power from the hands of the Pope and appropriate it to himſelf, as well as acquire the plunder of the religious houſes to the amount of upwards of 186,500*l.* yearly, this prince's character is too well known to ſuppoſe he would wait for any very urgent ſolicitations. It was neceſſary, however, to find ſome gloſs to reconcile the violence of the proceeding to the nation; a black liſt of crimes, therefore, ſome true and more feigned, was alledged againſt the regular clergy, and an act of parliament under Cromwell's management conſigned their revenues to the King's uſe. He then adviſed his maſter, by way of ſtrengthening the proteſtant cauſe, to marry Ann of Cleves, but the King ſoon after his marriage, being diſguſted at her perſon and manner, reſolved on a divorce, and at the ſame time began to ſhew marks of diſpleaſure to Cromwell who had promoted the match: many of the great lords had always looked on the favorite's elevation with envy and contempt; the precedence granted to the ſon of a black-

ſmith was an indignity not to be borne; Gardiner, likewiſe, and all thoſe who had adhered to the ancient religion, conſidered him as the chief inſtrument in the ſuppreſſion of the monaſtic endowments; to this may be added, the King's indifference about a league with the German Princes, to ſettle which Cromwell had formerly been employed; the Duke of Norfolk, ſeconded by Gardiner, taking advantage of theſe circumſtances, and of the King's growing affection for the Duke's niece, Catharine Howard, reſolved to accompliſh Cromwell's deſtruction. He repreſented to the King, "the "great diſcontents prevailing throughout the "kingdom, originating chiefly from the general "diſlike to Cromwell, who was accuſed of many "things, which, if not exactly within the reach "of legal proofs, were ſuch as ſhould deſervedly "deprive him of his Majeſty's gracious favour, "and that it would be equally politic as juſt, to "ſacrifice ſo odious a miniſter to quiet the minds "of his people." Henry's vengeance was as rapid as it was implacable. Norfolk accuſed Cromwell of high treaſon at the council board;

he was arreſted and ſent to the Tower; a bill of attainder was paſſed againſt him, and the ſlaviſh parliament declared him a heretic and a traitor, without permitting him to make his defence; he was condemned to die, though his ſentence was remitted till ſome time after. On the diſſolution of this parliament, the King granted a general pardon to all his ſubjects, under ſuch exceptions, however, as very much limited it; all were excluded who had denied the King's ſupremacy, or who had tranſgreſſed, or even were accuſed of having tranſgreſſed any one of the ſix articles. The Counteſs of Saliſbury, Cardinal Pole's mother, and Cromwell, were excepted by name. The delay of the execution gave the priſoner hopes of mercy; he wrote to Henry, and made ſome impreſſion on his ferocious mind, but the Duke of Norfolk, and Gardiner, ſeconded by Catharine Howard, were too well aware of the conſequences of a pardon, they, therefore, preſſed the execution, which took place July 30, 1540.

Cromwell's learning was as mean as his extraction, but he had improved a quick and ſagacious mind by obſervation and travel; he was a ſoldier in the Duke of Bourbon's army at the ſacking of Rome, and owed his ſubſequent honors as much to ſervile flattery and ſubmiſſion, as to his extraordinary talents; he bore his dignities with great equanimity, and continued his friendſhip and protection to many of his original acquaintance. A ſtory is told of his gratitude to a benefactor, too much to his honor to be omitted: being at Florence in great poverty, he applied to a merchant of the name of Freſcobald for relief; there was ſomething in Cromwell's countenance and manner that intereſted the merchant in his behalf, and he not only relieved his immediate neceſſities, but furniſhed him with the means of purſuing his journey to England. In proceſs of time, Freſcobald, from ſeveral misfortunes in trade, was under the neceſſity of making a voyage to England, to collect debts due to him there to the amount of 15,000 ducats: as he was paſſing one day near the King's palace, the merchant

was not a little ſurpriſed at a nobleman who was moſt ſumptuouſly attended, diſmounting from his horſe, advancing and embracing him, and inſiſting on his coming at an appointed hour to dine with him, but his ſurpriſe was ſtill greater, in finding the nobleman to be no other than the diſtreſſed traveller, who had experienced his bounty many years before at Florence. Cromwell repaid the obligation nobly and gratefully, and after procuring the merchant payment from all his debtors, diſmiſſed him loaded with preſents and favors to his native country.

THOMAS HOWARD,

DUKE OF NORFOLK,

WAS the eldeſt ſon of Henry, earl of Surrey, who was beheaded in the laſt year of the reign of Henry VIII. on a charge of high treaſon, the chief part of the charge conſiſting in his quartering the arms of Edward the Confeſſor, from whence it was inferred that he aſpired to the throne. Queen Mary, however, reſtored the ſon to his family honors, and he was allowed to ſucceed to the title of his grandfather, the Duke of Norfolk, who had been likewiſe ſentenced to death by Henry VIII. but who was almoſt miraculouſly preſerved by the tyrant's dying the night before his execution was to have taken place. At the acceſſion of Elizabeth, the Duke was made knight of the garter, and received many other diſtinguiſhed

marks of her royal favor; but ſuſpicions ariſing, that he carried his ambitious views to the marrying of the Queen of Scots, and by her means to attain to the ſucceſſion of the Engliſh throne, he was put under arreſt; yet on his promiſing to relinquiſh his deſigns, and attach himſelf to Cecil's party, he obtained his releaſe. Mary's charms, however, his own ambition, and probably both united, proved too ſtrong for his reſolution and promiſes; he was induced to enter into a contract of marriage with her, and to take ſo many, and ſuch unguarded meaſures, in the ſupport of her cauſe, that Burleigh got information of the whole of his proceedings; the conſequence was, his commitment to the Tower, and his being brought to his trial in 1572, the Earl of Shrewſbury preſiding as high ſteward: the evidence againſt him was full and clear; he was convicted, but the mildneſs of his manners, his affability, and liberality, had procured him ſo many, and ſuch warm friends, that every exertion was made to ſave him; the Lord High Steward ſhed tears on pronouncing his ſentence, and the peers ſolicited ſo

ſtrongly in his behalf, that he gained a reſpite of five months; unfortunately for him, during this period, Mary's friends were more than uſually active in their exertions; the parliament, therefore, conſidering the Duke's life as a principal cauſe of their attempts, addreſſed the Queen for his ſpeedy execution: in compliance with the addreſs of both houſes, he was beheaded the 2d of June, 1572.

It is generally granted that he aſpired to the crown of England, and that the means by which he propoſed to accompliſh his ends, were ſufficient grounds for Elizabeth's caution and jealouſy; but however criminal his ultimate object may be conſidered, no overt act in his endeavour to bring it about appears to be of that degree of criminality, that could juſtify the Queen either legally or morally in taking away his life. It muſt be remembered, too, that ſhe was without deſcendants, and ſomewhat advanced in life, and that Norfolk's high rank as firſt peer of the kingdom, added to the great popularity he enjoyed from the worthineſs of his

character, muſt be allowed, as extenuations at leaſt, for his extending his views beyond the ſphere of a ſubject.

THOMAS HOWARD,

EARL OF SUFFOLK,

WAS the youngeſt ſon of Thomas, duke of Norfolk, beheaded in Elizabeth's reign; and was created Earl of Suffolk at the acceſſion of James I.; ſome time after, lord chamberlain, and then lord high treaſurer, which office he diſcharged with corrupt and groſs peculation. In Elizabeth's reign the United States had been favored with a loan from the Queen, to the amount of eight millions of florins; in order to ſecure the payment, ſeveral towns had been put into her hands, theſe were called cautionary towns.* James I. being in great want of money, both from his own profuſion, and the backwardneſs of the parliament

* Theſe towns were Fluſhing, Rammekins, and the Briel.

to ſupply his wants, was eaſily worked upon by the States, (under a pretence of inability to pay the whole of the debt and intereſt) to accept of ſomewhat leſs than three millions of florins, and by this agreement the cautionary towns were given up in June, 1616, after having been eighteen years in poſſeſſion of the Engliſh. The money, however, vaniſhed, no one gueſſed how or where; the navy was entirely out of repair, and the army, for the pay of which the giving up the towns was made a pretence, ſtill remained in arrears. At length it was diſcovered that the Lord High Treaſurer had converted great part of the money to his own uſe. He was accuſed before the Star-chamber by Sir Edward Coke, where, beſides the above, and other miſdemeanors, the corruptions and extortions of his Counteſs and his agent, Bingley, were ſo ſtrongly proved, that he was diſmiſſed from his office, fined 30,000*l.* and impriſoned; he afterwards retired and ſpent the remainder of his life at Audley End, a magnificent ſtructure which he had built at the expenſe of 200,000*l.*

HENRY HOWARD,

EARL OF NORTHAMPTON,

† 1614

WAS brother to Thomas, duke of Norfolk, and ſon of the Earl of Surry, beheaded by Henry VIII. James I. in gratitude to the Howard family, who had ſuffered ſo much in the cauſe of his mother, among other marks of his attention, created Henry Howard, earl of Northampton, and likewiſe lord treaſurer. The hiſtory of the marriage of his niece to the Earl of Eſſex, their divorce, her ſubſequent marriage to the Earl of Somerſet, together with the murder of Overbury, are circumſtances too well known to need any thing to be ſaid of them in this place. They are introduced only to inquire how far Northampton was concerned in the plot. It was certain that he preſented a petition to the King in order that his

niece's plea for the diſſolution of her marriage with the Earl of Eſſex might be inquired into; and that in conſequence of this petition his Majeſty referred the buſineſs to the cognizance of the archbiſhop, ſome biſhops, and laymen; the court was too much under the influence of Somerſet to give a fair deciſion, ſo a divorce was pronounced, and the Counteſs married her lover. That Northampton had a ſhare in promoting the death of Overbury, though not ſo certain, yet it hardly admits of a doubt. His letter to Somerſet was produced, aſcribing the event to the juſtice of God on ſuch wicked inſtruments, and imputing it to the venereal diſtemper, when he could not be ignorant that it was the effect of poiſon. It was likewiſe well known that Somerſet was guided then, and afterwards, entirely by the Earl's advice, who ſtuck at nothing to monopolize the King's favorite. One chief end that he promiſed himſelf from this advantage was the exertion of his credit in favor of the Catholics; and, as he was warden of the Cinque Ports, he had the means of facilitating the entrance of Jeſuits

into the kingdom; this he did with ſo little reſerve that the public loudly murmured; and the Earl, in order to ſtop the rumour, proſecuted ſeveral on the writ of *Scandalum magnatum*; this proceeding brought forward a letter under his own hand to Cardinal Bellarmine, avowing that he was a Proteſtant only in ſhew, but that his heart was with the Catholics. The King was ſo diſpleaſed with this diſcovery, that he ſharply reprimanded him, on which he retired, and ſoon after died, in 1613. He was warden of the Cinque Ports, conſtable of Dover caſtle, lord privy ſeal, and chancellor of the univerſity of Cambridge. Weldon thus ſpeaks of him, "He was a great clerk, though "not a wiſe man, and the groſſeſt flatterer "in the world; of ſo venemous and cankered "a diſpoſition that he hated all men of noble "parts, nor loved any but flatterers like him-"ſelf. He uſed to ſay that he would be con-"tent to be damned perpetually in hell, to be "revenged of that proud Welchman, Sir Ri-"chard Manſell."

He built the houſe at Charing Croſs, now called Northumberland houſe, but at firſt called Northampton, and ſecondly, from its being in poſſeſſion of his brother, the Earl of Suffolk, Suffolk houſe.

THOMAS RATCLIFF,

EARL OF SUSSEX,

WAS the ſon of Henry Ratcliff, earl of Suſſex, who had been general to Queen Mary, and had obtained a privilege (granted only to one family beſide, the Courcy's, barons of Kinſale) of wearing his hat in the preſence of his ſovereign. The ſon diſtinguiſhed himſelf, in ſome degree, in negotiating the marriage articles between Queen Elizabeth and Charles, archduke of Auſtria; for this purpoſe he was ſent ambaſſador to the Emperor Maximilian, to whom he carried the order of the garter. The Earl of Leiceſter, however, whoſe object was to defeat the marriage, had ſent Lord North under the character of a companion to Suſſex, but, in fact, to thwart the ambaſſador's meaſures, by hinting to the Imperial court that theſe

overtures for marriage were mere pretences to conceal other projects. The Emperor ſoon diſcovered that Lord North was better informed than Suſſex: for, in proportion as he relaxed in his demands or advanced in his offers, he found new obſtacles always aroſe, till at length he was thoroughly convinced of the Queen's illuſive conduct, who broke off all her matrimonial negotiations with Catholic princes, under the plea of pretended difficulties with reſpect to religion. About ſeventeen years after this negotiation, Elizabeth ſent an army into Scotland, not, as ſhe profeſſed, to make war on the Scots nation, but merely to chaſtiſe the inſolence of ſome depredators, who had made inroads into England; the ravages, however, committed by the Engliſh were dreadful. This army was commanded by the Earl of Suſſex, who was as much diſtinguiſhed by his military talents as by his political ſhrewdneſs and capacity, which gave his opinions great weight with Elizabeth's miniſtry; inſomuch, that ſome have believed that the Queen formed her conduct towards the unfortunate Queen of Scots

on a letter written from Suſſex to Sir William Cecil. There are likewiſe letters of Suſſex's extant, adviſing how matters ſhould be conducted with reſpect to Scotland, France, and Flanders. Elizabeth alſo commanded him to write his mind freely to her on the ſubject of her propoſed marriage with Monſieur. This he did in a long letter printed in Mr. Lodge's collection of the Howard, Talbot, and Cecil papers. In which he balances, with great good ſenſe, all the probable advantages and diſadvantages of the alliance, and ends by ſtrongly recommending it. Among other objections that might occur to her Majeſty, he ſuppoſes it as a thing barely poſſible, that "a huſband might "fraudulently ſeek her perſon fyrſt, to poſſeſſe "another by treaſone after, for it carryethe no "reaſonabell ſence with it, that a chryſtyen "prince, poſſeſſed of your godly, vertuoſe, "wiſe, bewtifull, and peerleſſe perſonne, "ſhowld have in his hart to be by treaſone "delyvered of you."

CHARLES, DUKE OF BOURBON,

CONSTABLE OF FRANCE,

1489 to 1527,

WAS born in 1489, and was the third of his name, of the branch of Bourbon Montpenſier; a prince as eminent for his military talents as for his errors and misfortunes. A reſemblance in qualities and diſpoſitions, as well as the near alliance in blood between Francis I. and the Conſtable, had naturally endeared them to each other; unfortunately however for both, Louiſe, the King's mother, had conceived a violent diſlike to the Conſtable, and ſhe exerted her utmoſt influence to impreſs her ſon with the ſame ſentiments; ſhe ſucceeded but too well, and no indignity was forgot to inflame and alienate the Conſtable's mind from his attachment to his ſovereign. Bourbon's high ſenſe

of honor and rectitude preſerved him for a time from a violation of his duty, a long ſucceſſion of mortifying injuries at length drove him to ſwerve from his loyalty. He entered into a correſpondence with the enemy of his maſter; and offered the Emperor his aſſiſtance in conquering France. Charles caught eagerly at the offer, and ſpared neither promiſes nor allurements to attach him to his ſervice. Provence and Dauphinè were to be ſettled on him, with the title of king, and the Emperor's ſiſter, Eleanor, widow of the King of Portugal, was likewiſe to be given him in marriage, with a vaſt portion. The Emperor was to enter France by the Pyrenees, and the Conſtable to raiſe ſix thouſand of his vaſſals and dependents to act in concert with him; the allies were to wait till Francis had croſſed the Alps, as then there would have been ſcarce any force in France to oppoſe them. Happily, however, for that kingdom, two of the Conſtable's retainers gave intimation to the King of a ſuſpicion of their maſter's being engaged in a treaſonable correſpondence. Francis, generous and

candid himſelf, could with difficulty be induced to ſuſpect the firſt prince of the blood of ſo much treachery and baſeneſs; he, however, repaired to him at Moulins, where he found him in bed, under the pretence of ſickneſs, which he feigned that he might not accompany the King to Italy. The Conſtable aſſerted his innocence with ſo much appearance of ingenuouſneſs, that Francis was deceived, and, though adviſed, refuſed to arreſt him. Bourbon availed himſelf of this, and pretending to follow the King, croſſed the Rhone and arrived ſafe in Italy. Bonnevet, who commanded for Francis in the Milaneſe, was attacked by the Imperialiſts under the Emperor's general, Peſcara, accompanied by the Conſtable Bourbon; in this action fell the celebrated Bayard, the chevalier, *ſans crainte et ſans reproche*; Bourbon, perceiving him ſitting under a tree, and hearing he was mortally wounded, approached him with expreſſions of pity and regret; "Pity not me," cried the gallant knight, "I die as a man of honour ought, in "the diſcharge of my duty; *they* are objects

" of pity who fight againſt their king, their " country, and their oaths." While the Imperial generals, Lannoy and Peſcara, were making uncommon exertions to oppoſe Francis in Italy, Bourbon, who had quitted them to conduct an army of Germans, arrived with his charge, while Francis was beſieging Pavia. The King had now a choice of coming to immediate action or retiring to a ſtrong poſt till the arrival of an expected reinforcement; his prudent and experienced officers ſuggeſted the latter, but his own ardour prompted him to adopt the former expedient. His army was completely routed, and himſelf made priſoner. The hiſtory of his impriſonment, and the conduct of the Emperor towards him, is foreign to our purpoſe. By the death of Peſcara, the Imperial general, the command of the army devolved to the Conſtable Bourbon. The battle of Pavia was fought in the year 1525, and in the enſuing year Bourbon, in reſentment for the conduct which Pope Clement had held with regard to the Emperor, marched his troops to invade the papal territories; he arrived on

them in January 1527, with an army without pay, without magazines, and without artillery; prompted, however, with the promiſe of plunder, they aſſaulted Placentia and Bologna, but failed in each attempt; their ill ſucceſs produced a mutiny, and it required all the general's art to induce them to proceed. The Pope, alarmed at their approach, negotiates with Lannoy, the Imperial general, who promiſes, on certain conditions, to ſtop the Conſtable's march. Bourbon, however, diſregarded his interference, and bending his courſe firſt towards Florence with a view of taking that city, he changed his plan and led his army to the gates of Rome. On the morning after his arrival the city was aſſaulted on three different ſides; the aſſailants were at firſt repulſed, but Bourbon, by his voice and example, rallied them and led them back to the aſſault, where he was dangerouſly wounded by a muſket-ball, as he was mounting a ſcaling ladder in the trenches; finding his death certain, his preſence of mind was ſuch, that he ordered his body to be covered with a cloak to conceal the

diſaſter from his army; and thus died the celebrated Conſtable Bourbon, in May 1527, at the age of thirty-eight years, with the reputation of a great general, and of qualities worthy of a better cauſe.

JOHN, DUKE OF BOURBON.

JOHN, Duke of Bourbon and Auvergne, peer and conſtable of France, ſurnamed the *Good*, the laſt branch of the Bourbons deſcended from St. Lewis. He married three wives: 1ſt, Jane, daughter of Charles VII.; 2d, Catharine d'Armagnac; 3d, Jane de Bourbon; the ſecond bore him a ſon, who did not ſurvive him. He died in April 1488, and left no legitimate but ſeveral natural children.

WILLIAM OF NASSAU,

FIRST PRINCE OF ORANGE,

1533 to 1584.

ABOUT the middle of the ſixteenth century, the bigotted and cruel maxims of Philip II. which were carried into execution by the violent and unrelenting Duke of Alva, ſo exaſperated the free people of the Low Countries, that they made a general, and finally a ſucceſsful effort to throw off the yoke of the Spaniſh government. The conteſt occupied the arms of Spain for near half a century, exhauſted the vigor, and ruined the reputation of that monarchy. The Prince of Orange, in conjunction with the Counts Horne and Egmont, was among the firſt to head the inſurrection againſt the oppreſſive government of the Spaniards; the two Counts were taken and put

to death, but the Prince eſcaping, was choſen Stadtholder, and a treaty was formed at Utrecht for the mutual defence of the Low Countries, in 1579. The inſurgents were at firſt contemptuouſly called the *Gueux*, but this ignominious appellation did not prevent them from being acknowledged thirty years after, under the title of the United States, firſt by Spain, and ſoon after by all Europe. On the flight of the Prince of Orange, he was ſummoned to take his trial, and on his non-appearance, his large poſſeſſions in Burgundy and the Netherlands were confiſcated: Alva publiſhed a proclamation in Philip's name, authorizing any perſon to take away William's life, which produced an anſwer from the Prince, called his Apology, wherein he vindicates himſelf, and relates at large the tyrannical proceedings of Philip and his governors; this was publiſhed in 1581, and addreſſed to all the potentates of Chriſtendom. He ſoon after levied a ſmall army in Germany, and being joined by many who fled from the cruelties exerciſed in the Low Countries, made an attack on the Duke of Alva, but ſuperiority of diſ-

cipline decided the conteſt in favor of the Duke. The Prince, however, not diſheartened, on hearing of the Brill being in poſſeſſion of the inſurgents, levied new troops, and poſſeſſed himſelf of Holland and Zealand, and probably would have made himſelf maſter of Bruſſels, had not the report of the maſſacre of St. Bartholomew ſtruck ſuch a damp into his army as obliged him to retire. The ſeizure of the Brill produced the moſt important conſequences, which terminated in the loſs of the United Provinces to the crown of Spain: Alkmaer, Leyden, and ſeveral other towns, inſpired by the ſucceſsful reſiſtance of the Brill, and animated by the bravery and patriotiſm of the Prince of Orange, repulſed the Spaniards, and brought about the pacification of Ghent, by which the States bound themſelves to drive all foreign ſoldiers from the Provinces, to reſtore the ancient conſtitution, and to refer matters of religion each to its own ſtate: though Don John of Auſtria acknowledged this act by conſent of the King of Spain, yet he took an early opportunity of violating it. The Prince of Orange,

after numberleſs exertions in favor of his oppreſſed country, fell at length by the hand of an aſſaſſin: one Balthazar Gerrard, a Burgundian, ſhot him with a piſtol at Delft, in 1584, and the fifty-firſt year of his age; the murderer was a domeſtic in the Prince's ſervice, and inſtigated to this wicked deed by the court of Spain; the Prince exclaimed as he fell, "*the* "*Lord have mercy on this poor people,*" a refutation of the Spaniſh calumnies, that he affected arbitrary power; and if further refutation were neceſſary, it is a certain fact, that the people lamented his loſs as that of their common father.

SIR WALTER MILDMAY, KNT.

WAS a younger ſon of Thomas Mildmay, of Moulſham hall in Eſſex, one of the auditors of the court of augmentations in the reign of Henry VIII. he was educated at Chriſt's college Cambridge, and afterwards appointed ſurveyor in his father's office; the management of the mint was entruſted to him under Edward VI. as well as that of the crown lands, to the revenue of which he had particularly applied his ſtudy: on the death of Sir Richard Sackville, Queen Elizabeth made him chancellor of her exchequer, in which ſituation, he ſo far exerted his application and talents, as to gain his miſtreſs's eſteem though not her confidence, for his probity was not flexible enough to permit him to approve or concur in all the dark politics that diſgraced a part of that reign; and the good opinion the nation formed of him in

conſequence of his rigid integrity, is ſuppoſed to have excited her Majeſty's jealouſy; for though he was a candidate for the ſeals, and well qualified to hold, yet he never could obtain them. Emanuel college, Cambridge, was founded by him, and he conferred donations on Chriſt's, the college in which he received his education. He was eminent for literature, and a warm patron of learned men: ſoon after the foundation of Emanuel college he died at Hackney in May, 1589. He married the ſiſter of Sir Francis Walſingham, by whom he left two ſons and three daughters: Winefred married to the anceſtor of the preſent Earl Fitzwilliam, Chriſtian to Charles Barret, of Avely in Eſſex, and Martha to William Brounker. Sir Walter was poſſeſſed by purchaſe, of the eſtates of Danbury in Eſſex, and Apethorpe in Northamptonſhire; the ~~former~~ latter of which went by female deſcent to the Earls of Weſtmorland, the ~~latter~~ former in the ſame manner to Thomas Fytche, Eſq.

SIR CHRISTOPHER HATTON,

†. 1591

WAS the youngeſt ſon of William Hatton, of Holdenby in Northamptonſhire; as it was the cuſtom in his time to ſend young men to the inns of court, not with a view of breeding them to the law as a profeſſion, but to acquire knowledge and habits of buſineſs, he was placed when very young in the ſociety of the Inner Temple; from this ſituation he was ſoon removed to the band of the Queen's gentlemen penſioners: the elegance of his perſon, and the gracefulneſs of his dancing, attracted her Majeſty's notice, and theſe recommendations raiſed him ſucceſſively, through the ſituations of gentleman of the privy-chamber, vice-chamberlain, and privy-counſellor: in the preſent day theſe gradations would never have been underſtood as preparatory to the poſſeſſion of the great ſeal, which the Queen entruſted to his

care in 1587, and about the ſame time conferred on him the honor of the garter. Elizabeth's court is ſaid to have been divided into two orders of men, that of ſtateſmen, and that of favorites; ſhe had too much ſagacity to follow the ordinary fault of arbitrary princes, in blending theſe two orders; *her* policy, on the contrary, was to keep them ſeparate; *her* confidence, and not the ſtation, made the ſtateſman: thus Suſſex, a deep politician, was diſguiſed in the courtly employ of lord chamberlain; and though Hatton's perſon and gallantry appeared to be his only recommendations to an office, which required great profeſſional knowledge, as well as a high degree of intellectual talents, and though his inadequateneſs to his office was at firſt ſo apparent, that the advocates refuſed to plead before him, yet a ſevere application to ſtudy, a ſtrict attention to equity, and a patient ſubmiſſion to the private advice of eminent judges, at length enabled him to pronounce decrees that gained him the approbation of his brethren, and of the public: he died September 20th, 1591, after he had been four

years chancellor. His death is ſaid to have been occaſioned by the extreme trouble he felt at not being able to diſcharge an old debt, which his rigid miſtreſs required the payment of.

HENRY FITZ-ALAN,

EARL OF ARUNDEL,

† 1580

WAS the ſon of Thomas, earl of Arundel, and born about the beginning of the ſixteenth century; this family was among the moſt ancient and illuſtrious that then flouriſhed in this country; William de Albenio, who came into England with the Conqueror, was created Earl of Arundel and Suſſex, and left male deſcendants for five generations; when the iſſue male failing, Iſabel, daughter of the laſt Earl, tranſmitted the honors of the houſe to her ſon John Fitz-Alan, by virtue of the tenure of Arundel caſtle, in the forty-ſecond year of Henry III.; in the reign of Henry V. there was a ſecond failure in the male iſſue, and John, the ſon of Eleanor, obtained the barony

and title, in oppoſition to the better claim of the Duke of Norfolk; from the above John, Henry, of whom we are now ſpeaking, was the lineal deſcendant. In the beginning of the reign of Edward VI. he was accuſed of having been acceſſary to the conſpiracy of the protector Somerſet againſt the life of the Duke of Northumberland: he was impriſoned; but afterwards releaſed, and received into Northumberland's confidence, ſo far, as to be admitted one of the privy-counſellors who, at the demiſe of Edward VI. were convened by Northumberland, with a view to put the crown on the head of Lady Jane Grey; the council met in the Tower, and were conſequently ſo much in the power of Northumberland, that no one durſt openly to oppoſe his propoſal; the Earl of Arundel, perhaps, through the influence of religious principles, (as he was a firm catholic) or from reſentment to the Duke, who had once ſet a heavy fine on him, or from a conviction of Mary's ſuperior claim, acquieſced in the project; but he was no ſooner at liberty than he declared for Mary. A meeting was held at

Baynard's caſtle, the houſe of the Earl of Pembroke; here Arundel, in a warm ſpeech, expatiated on the arrogance and treaſon of Northumberland, and urged the council to atone for their former deviation from loyalty to Mary, by immediately proclaiming her Queen; after a ſhort debate, the lord mayor and aldermen were ſent for, when the whole body repaired to St. Paul's, and announced their reſolution to the city; orders were ſent to Northumberland to diſband his army, and to ſubmit; and Arundel, together with Lord Paget, were diſpatched with the welcome intelligence to Mary; ſhe immediately ordered the Earl to arreſt the Duke, who, on this occaſion, ſhewed a puſillanimity and abjectneſs, equal to his former inſolence; he fawned and cringed to Arundel, and fell at his feet imploring him to intercede for his pardon. The Earl as a compenſation for this ſervice was made lord ſteward of the houſhold. He not only retained the Queen's favor during the whole of her reign, but had addreſs to ingratiate himſelf with her ſucceſſor, and advanced himſelf

ſo far in her good graces, as to be among thoſe who flattered themſelves that her Majeſty eyed them with a partial affection, imagining that the Queen would prefer a marriage with one of her own ſubjects, to a connection with a foreign Prince: and ſhould ſhe form ſuch a reſolution, the Earl preſumed, that no one had fairer pretenſions than himſelf; under this illuſion he ſpent vaſt ſums, and at length, with an exhauſted fortune, and in deſpair on the failure of his expectations, he obtained the Queen's leave to quit the kingdom, under pretence of travelling for the benefit of his health. On his return to England, he engaged with the Duke of Norfolk, Leiceſter, and others, in a plot againſt Cecil; they accuſed him of riſquing a war with Spain unneceſſarily, and they flattered themſelves that on this charge, the Queen might be induced to withdraw her confidence from him; but her Majeſty heard the accuſation with ſo much diſpleaſure, that the accuſers were inſtantly reduced to ſilence, and the affair entirely dropped. The Earl died in 1580, and was the laſt of that illuſtrious family, which had

flouriſhed in England above 300 years; one of his daughters married Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk, and thence it was that the title of Earl of Arundel came to the Howard family.

SIR THOMAS MORE,

1480 to 1535,

WAS the ſon of Sir John More, one of the juſtices of the King's Bench. Sir Thomas was born in Milk Street, London, in the year 1480; and was received in quality of a page in the houſe of Cardinal Moreton, archbiſhop of Canterbury and lord chancellor. The Cardinal, who had great inſight into character, would often ſay to his viſitors, "*This boy who "waits at table will one day prove a miracle of "men.*" His patron afterwards ſent him to Canterbury college, now called Chriſt Church, Oxford; and thence in turn to New-inn, Lincoln's-inn, and Furnival's-inn, at which latter place he was afterwards reader for the ſpace of three years. He ſoon after married the daughter of Mr. Colt, of New Hall in Eſſex, and was

elected into the House of Commons. Henry VII. on the marriage of his daughter Margaret with the King of Scots, demanding one subsidy and three fifteenths, Mr. More opposed this demand in parliament with so much force and argument, that the King expressed his high resentment of it. But not thinking it prudent to question the son for his parliamentary conduct, on some frivolous pretence, Henry sent the father, Sir John, to the Tower; nor was he liberated till he paid a fine of 100*l.* the usual atonement for the real or pretended offences against Henry VII. Mr. More now put on a barrister's gown, and read a public lecture in St. Lawrence's church, Old Jewry; his topics were moral philosophy and the elucidation of historic difficulties. He had at this time a strong inclination to devote himself to the priesthood, and for this purpose, during a year or two, he underwent spiritual discipline at the Charter-house; but fortunately for society he changed his mind, and was soon after created one of the justices of the King's Bench, and, in the year 1508, judge in the sheriff's

court in the city of London; at which time, though exceedingly engroſſed by buſineſs, he found leiſure to write his Utopia, a work evincing a free, manly, and philoſophic mind. He entered likewiſe into a literary correſpondence with Eraſmus, who coming to England ſome time after, their mutual friends contrived that they ſhould meet, without knowing each other, at the lord mayor's table. Here More diſcuſſed matters with ſo much learning and acuteneſs, that Eraſmus exclaimed, "*Aut tu Morus es aut "nullus!*" to which More readily replied, "*Aut tu Eraſmus es aut diabolus!*" About the year 1516 he was employed on a joint commiſſion with Tunſtall, biſhop of Durham, to negotiate a treaty with the archduke of Auſtria, afterwards Charles V. when, being at Bruges, a vain ſophiſt publicly challenged any one to diſpute with him on whatever art or ſcience the perſon accepting the challenge might chuſe. More, in anſwer, propoſed the following law jargon as the ſubject; *An averia capta in Withernamia ſunt irreplegibilia?* this ſo puzzled the diſputant that he gave up the conteſt, and

made himſelf the laughing-ſtock of his countrymen. On his return Mr. More was made a maſter of requeſts, and ſoon after received the honor of knighthood with a ſeat at the privy council. In 1520 the King made him treaſurer of the exchequer; and experienced ſo much pleaſure, as well as improvement, in his converſation as almoſt wholly to engroſs the treaſurer's time. Sir Thomas, who was a domeſtic man, thought he made too great a ſacrifice for this flattering diſtinction, in almoſt debarring himſelf the company of his wife and children, the conſequence of this was, that he became more reſerved in his diſcourſe; Henry, perceiving it grew leſs anxious for his company, and gradually omitted ſending for him. So much familiarity had ſubſiſted between the King and the treaſurer, that his Majeſty once called unexpectedly at his houſe at Chelſea and partook of his family dinner. In 1523 he was choſen ſpeaker of the Houſe of Commons, where he ſoon after boldly and honeſtly oppoſed an oppreſſive ſubſidy promoted by Cardinal Wolſey, who, meeting him next day, ſaid to him,

"*Would to God you had been at Rome, Mr. More,* "*when I made you ſpeaker.*"—"*Your Grace not* "*offended,*" replied More, "*ſo would I too.*" After the diſgrace of Wolſey, in the year 1530, the King entruſted the great ſeal to Sir Thomas, partly from a conviction of his ability and probity, and partly with a view of engaging him to approve of his divorce with Catharine of Arragon. This, however, More's conſcience never would permit him to do; and, after filling the high office of chancellor with the utmoſt integrity and diligence for three years, he reſigned it in 1533. It muſt be remarked that he was the firſt layman ever raiſed to that dignity. He now retired with a reſolution to paſs the remainder of his life in privacy; his enemies, however, determined otherwiſe; they framed ſeveral malignant but unſucceſsful accuſations againſt him, till at length he furniſhed them with the means of ruining him by refuſing to take the oath of ſupremacy. After lying fifteen months in priſon, he was arraigned, condemned, and executed, July 5, 1535, on Tower hill. He not only maintained a ſteady

compoſure but even his uſual cheerfulneſs on the ſcaffold; and though, generally ſpeaking, the laſt ſcene of life but ill accords with effuſions of wit or merriment, yet natural character ſo far got the better of the terrors of the moment that his exiſtence ended in an epigram. Mr. Addiſon juſtly obſerves, this would have been phrenzy in any one who had not reſembled him in the ſanctity of his life and manners.

More was certainly one of the great ornaments of the age in which he lived; he was an accompliſhed ſcholar, eminent in the knowledge, but ſtill more ſo in the conſcientious, and impartial exerciſe, of his profeſſion. It would indeed have redounded more to the honor of his literary talents had his Utopia been his only work, and had he abſtained from the illiberal virulence that characteriſes ſome of his polemic writings. But the great, the eternal blot on his memory was his ordering a man who differed from him in religious ſpeculations to be put to the torture, and ſtanding

himſelf by while the ſentence was executing. How baneful muſt the poiſon of bigotry be, when ſuch talents and ſuch virtues could not furniſh an antidote to its effects! He had other foibles in common with mankind; Archbiſhop Cranmer ſays, he would never vary from a point on which he had declared himſelf, for fear of blemiſhing his reputation. One of his ſingularities was to wear his gown higher on one ſhoulder than the other. He was twice married, and left one ſon and four daughters by his firſt wife, but none by his ſecond. His eldeſt daughter, Margaret, was married to William Roper, Eſq. of Well Hall, in Kent, and was diſtinguiſhed for her literary accompliſhments. After her father's head had been expoſed on London Bridge for fourteen days, ſhe found means to procure it and preſerve it till her own death, when ſhe was buried with it in her arms in 1554, in St. Dunſtan's church at Canterbury.

CARDINAL WOLSEY,

WAS born at Ipſwich in March 1471. His father is ſaid to have been a butcher, but poſſeſſed of means ſufficient to enable him to ſend his ſon to the univerſity of Oxford, where he took a bachelor's degree as early as the age of fourteen years. He was ſoon after elected fellow of Magdalen college, and undertook the care of a ſchool adjoining the college, at which he was charged with the education of the three ſons of Thomas Grey, marquis of Dorſet, who preſented him the living of Limington in Somerſetſhire, in 1500. During his reſidence here, his life appears to have been ſo diſorderly, that Sir Amias Pawlet, a juſtice of the peace, once ſet him in the ſtocks for being drunk and commencing a riot at a neighbouring fair; which affront Wolſey had not magnanimity enough to forget, but avenged him-

ſelf while chancellor, by confining Sir Amias ſome years a priſoner in the Temple. On the death of his patron he was introduced into the family of Dean, archbiſhop of Canterbury; and afterwards was recommended to the patronage of Sir John Nanſon, treaſurer of Calais, where he rendered himſelf ſo uſeful by his talents and aſſiduity, that he was made one of the King's chaplains, and ſoon after inſtituted to the rectory of Redgrave, in the dioceſe of Norwich. In the diſcharge of his office as chaplain to the King, he became known to Fox, biſhop of Wincheſter, and Lovell, chancellor of the Exchequer, who recommended him as a fit agent for negotiating the intended marriage between Henry VII. and Margaret of Savoy. He was accordingly ſent to the Emperor, Maximilian, and executed the buſineſs with ſuch diſpatch, and ſo much to Henry's ſatisfaction, that he was promoted, February 8, 1508, to the deanry of Lincoln. Henry dying the ſame year, Wolſey's object was to ingratiate himſelf with his ſucceſſor, and this he did ſo effectually as almoſt to monopolize the

young King's good graces, and to preſerve an aſcendancy over his violent and capricious temper for upwards of ſixteen years; Fox, biſhop of Wincheſter, had uſed his utmoſt endeavours, by introducing Wolſey, to raiſe a rival to the inſinuating arts of the Earl of Surrey; never reflecting that it was poſſible that he might be eclipſed and ſupplanted by an inſtrument of his own creating. But Wolſey, obſerving that dry details on political ſubjects were not likely to arreſt the attention of a youthful prince ardent in the purſuits of gaiety and pleaſure, promoted, and even entered with his maſter into every ſpecies of frolic and diſſipation, introducing buſineſs as it were incidentally, and not ſo as to check or reſtrain the King from the purſuit of objects ſo natural to his age and ſo ſuitable to his diſpoſition. To this artful management may be aſcribed his rapid advancement as a churchman and a miniſter, and the implicit confidence the young monarch repoſed in him. Hence, "*diſdaining* "*dull degrees*," he was made canon of Windſor, regiſtrary of the order of the garter, dean

of York, biſhop of Lincoln, archbiſhop of York, cardinal of St. Cicily, and, December 22, 1515, lord chancellor of England; and the year following, by a commiſſion from the Pope, Legate *à latere*; he held beſides *in commendam* the abbey of St. Alban's, with the ſees of Durham and Wincheſter, and the revenues in farm of the biſhoprics of Bath, Worceſter, and Hereford, enjoyed by foreign incumbents. From theſe preferments and penſions which he received of ſeveral princes on the Continent, his income was equal to his maſter's; nor was his retinue much leſs ſplendid, ten lords, fifteen knights, forty eſquires, and 800 of inferior degree, formed his houſehold. If he was inſatiable in his acquiſitions, he was magnificent in his expenſes; noblemen of the higheſt quality ſerved him at maſs, and tended the wine to him on their knees; and, while he was ambaſſador to the Emperor at Bruſſels, he was ſerved at table in this poſture to the aſtoniſhment of the Germans who were eye-witneſſes to the diſplay of this arrogant ſu-

periority. He was the firſt clergyman in England who wore ſilk and gold, not only on his habit but on the ſaddles and trappings of his horſes. His cardinal's hat was borne aloft by a perſon of rank, and when he came to the King's chapel he would permit it to be placed no where but on the altar. A tall and comely prieſt carried before him a pillar of ſilver with a croſs on the top; while another prieſt, contrary to cuſtom, marched with his croſs as archbiſhop of York, even when in the dioceſe of Canterbury, which made ſarcaſtic people obſerve, that it was evident one croſs was not ſufficient to expiate the Cardinal's ſins: his head, indeed, was ſo giddy with his mighty elevation that when Warham, archbiſhop of Canterbury, ſubſcribed a letter to him, *Your loving brother*, he complained of his preſumption, which being told to Warham, "Know "ye not," ſaid he, "that this man is drunk "with too much proſperity." But his character as a politician by no means kept pace with his vanity and oſtentation. He was by turns the dupe of his own ambition and avarice, as

well as the bubble of the Emperor, France, and Rome; and perhaps no ſtronger inſtance can be given of the inſatiableneſs of ambition, than, that the whole of his mighty acquiſitions ſeemed to him as empty nothings, while the papal crown mocked and eluded his graſp. With reſpect to his domeſtic politics, his chief object was to render his maſter abſolute and uncontrolled; to this end, he attempted to govern without parliaments, there being but two from the ſeventh to the twenty-firſt year of Henry's reign, while the want of parliamentary grants was ſupplied by the violent extortions of loans and benevolences: he erected, too, an office called the Legantine court, in the management of which he ſeemed to aſſume all power both civil and eccleſiaſtic; he eſtabliſhed an inquiſitorial authority over the laity, by aſſuming the right to examine all matters of conſcience, and into all matters which, though they eſcaped the law, might appear contrary to good morals; and to render this unprecedented aſſumption of power more obnoxious, he placed over the court John Allen, a man, whom he himſelf, as chan-

cellor, had condemned for perjury. Tacitus has obſerved, "*Nunquam ſatis fida potentia ubi* "*nimia eſt*:" and there ſurely never exiſted a man, to whom the truth of this maxim 'was more applicable, than to Wolſey; he was ſtanding, as it were, on the pinnacle of greatneſs, one falſe ſtep, one adverſe blaſt, might deſtroy his equilibrium, and he was to fall to riſe no more. The cauſe of Henry's marriage with Catharine was evoked to Rome, and Ann Boleyn, who bore no good will to the Cardinal, had gained entire poſſeſſion of the King's heart; even the partiſans of Catharine conſpired to effect his downfall, and Henry was ſo worked upon by importunities, that he ſent the Dukes of Norfolk and Suffolk to require the great ſeal of him; but, Wolſey not conceiving their authority ſufficient for the purpoſe, retained it, till a letter from the King ordered him to reſign it into the hands of Sir Thomas More. He was then required to depart from York place, which Henry ſeized, and which became afterwards the reſidence of the Kings of England, under the name of Whitehall; the

hangings of this palace which were of cloth of gold and ſilver, a cupboard of plate of maſſy gold, and a thouſand pieces of fine holland, made part of, and probably in ſome meaſure prompted the ſeizure. The Cardinal was ordered to retire to Aſher, near Hampton Court: and his mind, which had once been ſo much elated with his grandeur, now ſunk into extreme abjectneſs; his flatterers, his dependents, his courtly friends, all deſerted him; and, with ſuch anxiety did he wait ſome tranſient return of his maſter's favor, that he alighted from his horſe, and knelt in the dirt, to receive a ring which the King ſent him as a token that he had not altogether forſaken him. Ann Boleyn, however, in conjunction with her uncle the Duke of Norfolk, exerted herſelf to harden Henry's heart againſt his old ſervant: the King ordered him to be indicted in the Star-chamber, where a ſentence was paſſed on him: the Houſe of Lords then voted forty-five articles againſt him without calling for evidence; theſe were afterwards ſent down to the Lower Houſe, where Thomas Cromwell, a dependent of the

Cardinal's, defended his patron with ſuch ſpirit and courage, as to recommend himſelf to Henry's favor: finding it was poſſible that Wolſey's ruin might not be accompliſhed by this proceeding, his enemies indicted him on the obſolete ſtatute of proviſors, which enacts the penalty of a premunire, on any perſon who ſhould procure bulls from Rome; he pleaded guilty, and threw himſelf on the King's mercy. Wolſey had certainly violated the law, but this he had done for years with the King's ſanction, and the acquieſcence of the Parliament; the ſentence pronounced againſt him was, "that he "was out of the King's protection, his lands and "goods forfeited, and that his perſon might be "committed to cuſtody." It was not, however, put into execution, and the King ſtill ſeemed to retain ſome degree of amity and good-will towards him. After remaining ſome time at Aſher, he removed to Richmond, a reſidence Henry had given him in return for Hampton Court; his enemies ſtill fearing the effects of his near neighbourhood to the King, procured his further removal to his ſee of York. He

took up his abode at Cawood, and acquired great popularity by his affable and hoſpitable demeanor: but his tranquillity was not long undiſturbed; Northumberland was ſent to arreſt him for high treaſon, and to eſcort him to London in order to his trial. He fell ſick at Sheffield, the ſeat of the Earl of Shrewſbury; ſtill, however, continuing his journey, he reached Leiceſter abby; here the abbot and monks advancing to meet him with great reſpect and ceremony, "I am come, ſaid he, to lay my bones "among you," and taking to his bed in a ſhort time expired, November 30, 1630. The immediate cauſe of his death is differently related; Hume attributes it to a dyſentery, the conſequence of the fatigues of his journey, and the anxiety of his mind; and Rapin concurs in the ſame opinion, but Speed imputes it to his taking too great a doſe of confections to expel the wind from his ſtomach; while the author of England's Worthies, publiſhed in 1684, aſcribes it to poiſon, which he voluntarily took, or which was adminiſtered to him by ſome, who, as the author ſays, "might from his

"feathers build themſelves neſts." Henry heard the news of his death with an appearance of ſorrow, and always ſpoke favourably of his memory: and, however the charges of inordinate ambition, oſtentatious vanity, and inſatiable rapaciouſneſs, muſt be allowed to form the dark ſide of his character, it cannot be denied, that the ſame loftineſs of mind prompted him to erect * magnificent monuments to piety and learning, as well as to extend his munificence and protection to genius and talents, wherever he diſcovered them; nor is it amongſt his leaſt praiſes, that his adminiſtration of juſtice, while chancellor, was equitable and impartial: Lord Herbert, indeed, ſays that no man ever fell from ſo high a ſtation, to whom ſo few real crimes could be imputed; this is perhaps ſaying too much; yet the refutation of the articles by Cromwell, and their rejection by a Houſe of Commons ſo ſervilely devoted to the court, are ſtrong preſumptions in his favour: and the

* Hampton Court, Chriſt Church, Oxford, and a college at Ipſwich.

King's attaching him by an indictment on the ſtatute of proviſors, after he had failed in a parliamentary impeachment, are ſtrong proofs of a pre-determined reſolution to make the miniſter the victim to his caprice and cruelty.

SIR JOHN NORRIS,

1585,

ONE of thoſe heroic leaders whoſe actions contributed to the brilliancy of the reign of Elizabeth. When the Queen, at the earneſt ſolicitations of the Flemings, had conſented to become their protector, Norris was diſpatched with five thouſand foot and a thouſand horſe. This armament was the prelude to the ſending a larger force under the command of the Earl of Leiceſter, who ſome time after his arrival detached Norris to intercept a convoy of proviſions which the Prince of Parma was ſending for the relief of Zutphen, a ſkirmiſh took place, and in it the gallant Sir Philip Sidney was mortally wounded. Norris ſucceeded in the enterprize, but ſome miſunderſtanding ariſing between him and Leiceſter, he was removed

from his poſt in the Low Countries, and, much to the diſcontent of the Flemings, was recalled.

In 1589, Don Antonio of Portugal, being diſpoſſeſſed of his dominions and crown by Philip II. of Spain, applied to Elizabeth for ſuccour, who gave Drake and Norris the charge of a conſiderable fleet and army to eſcort Antonio to the bay of Gallicia, near the Groyne. The lower town of the Groyne was taken by aſſault, but the upper town repelled the attack of the aſſailants, while a ſtrong force under the Conde de Andrada attempted its relief. This body was met on its march by Sir John Norris, a deſperate action enſued, which ended in the total defeat of the Spaniards, and the loſs of their ſtandards and baggage. For want of battering cannon, however, the ſiege was raiſed; the army re-embarked, and being joined by the Earl of Eſſex, they attempted and took the caſtle of Peniche, on the Portugueſe coaſt, and thence marched with Don Antonio in their company to the attack of Liſbon; Drake at the

ſame time coaſting it with his fleet, which, however, arrived not at the appointed rendezvous. The ſuburbs of Liſbon fell an eaſy prey, the town, however, bad defiance to the enemy's attempts. Several days were conſumed in hourly expectation of a promiſed reinforcement from the Duke of Braganza, but the Spaniards being maſters of the intermediate country, the ſuccours never arrived. The army embarked again, and after taking Vigo, returned, June 21, 1589, to Plymouth, with the loſs of ten thouſand men; the great object of the enterprize, the ſetting Don Antonio on the throne of Portugal, having totally failed.

In the whole of this expedition there appears but little military ſkill or foreſight, romantic courage and meſſages of defiance to the enemy form the principal features of the expedition. Eſſex and Norris both ſeem to ſuppoſe that the ſame mode of conduct was ſuitable to a general at the head of an army, as might become a *preux chevalier*, when about to break a lance in his miſtreſs's honour at a tournament. This

conduct, ſo analogous to an age of chivalry, is ſtrongly exemplified in the various deſultory enterprizes that took place in Elizabeth's reign. The intricate combinations now thought ſo neceſſary to form the character of a general, were then conſidered as requiſites, infinitely inferior to romantic valour. Norris, in the above expedition, ſends a trumpet to the Spaniſh general to bid him defiance, and to give him the lie; and Eſſex ſends a particular cartel, offering to fight any one of the Spaniſh army of equal quality with himſelf, or if none of his degree ſhould be found, then to try the event of a combat with ſix or eight of a ſide. The Spaniards, contrary to their national character, with more prudence than heroiſm, refuſe the challenge, and wiſely avail themſelves of the advantages which time and circumſtance had put in their hands, to oblige the Engliſh to reembark their forces.

Norris was ſome time after ſent to Ireland in order to reduce the famous rebel Tir-Oen to obedience, but a jealouſy riſing between him

and Lord Ruſſel the lieutenant, little progreſs was made, and Tir-Oen, in conſequence of the mutual animoſities of his opponents, found means to obtain an inſidious truce, which he took the firſt opportunity of breaking. Norris finding that he had been duped by the artifices of Tir-Oen, through grief and diſcontent, "the too uſual guerdon of many a noble "ſervitor," to uſe the words of Speed, ended his active life in 1598.

SIR WILLIAM HERBERT,

EARL OF PEMBROKE,

WAS the ſon of Sir Richard Herbert of Ewyas, born in the early part of the reign of Henry VIII. and bred to arms: little, however, is known of his hiſtory till about the fifth year of Edward VI. he then diſtinguiſhed himſelf by quelling an inſurrection in Wiltſhire—the cauſe of this inſurrection was the converting a large quantity of arable into paſture land. The wool of England was in great requeſt both at home and abroad, the knowledge of agriculture had made ſlow progreſs, paſturage was found to be more profitable than unſkilful tillage, and the breeding of ſheep had very generally taken place of huſbandry. This circumſtance could not fail to raiſe the price of corn, and diminiſh the demand for la-

bour. The profuſion likewiſe of Henry VIII. had reduced him to the ruinous expedient of debaſing the coin; the neceſſary conſequence was, that the good coin was hoarded and the baſe metal circulated among the people, who found that they could not purchaſe the neceſſaries of life at the accuſtomed prices. By theſe means, added to the ſuppreſſion of the monaſteries, which afforded a conſtant reſource, not only to the idle but alſo to the induſtrious, in times of ſcarcity and need, numbers of the lower order of people were thrown entirely out of employ, and reduced to great miſery; complaints and murmurs became univerſal, ſeveral books were written, ſtating the eventual miſchiefs of this abſurd and ruinous policy: the complaint, indeed, was of a more remote origin, as Sir Thomas More in his Utopia had obſerved, that a ſheep was a more rapacious animal than a lion or a wolf, and devoured whole villages, cities, and provinces. The nobility and gentry, however, continued their courſe; neither the calamitous condition of the poor, nor the humane interpoſition of the pro-

tector Somerset, were of any avail to check their proceedings, the people finding no redress for their grievances, rose in arms in many parts of the kingdom, particularly in Wiltshire and Somersetshire; an armed force under Sir William Herbert was sent to suppress them, which he effectually performed, though the discontents in other parts of the kingdom, inflamed likewise by religious bigotry, still continued objects of alarm to the government. These events took place in 1549, and two years after Sir William Herbert was created Earl of Pembroke, whether for the conspicuous part he took in extinguishing this rebellion, or from the connection he had formed with Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, does not appear in history. Northumberland in this year conceived the scheme of ruining his old rival Somerset, who, among other crimes, was accused of a design of murdering the Duke, the Earls of Pembroke and Northampton, at a banquet; as he was acquitted of that part of the accusation which amounted to treason, but was found guilty of the felony, (which, indeed, Somerset

confeſſed he had been raſh and intemperate enough to ſpeak of, but never really to reſolve upon,) poſterity might have been induced to have admitted of the juſtice of his ſentence, had not thoſe very Lords, Northumberland, Pembroke, and Northampton, formed part of the jury of twenty-ſeven peers who ſat in judgment on the unfortunate Somerſet.

In the beginning of the enſuing reign, 1553, great diſcontents pervaded the nation on the propoſed marriage between Philip II. of Spain, and Queen Mary: the proud, ſullen, ſevere temper of Philip, the dread of the inſtitution of an inquiſitorial tribunal in England, with the relations of the horrid cruelties committed by the Spaniards in South America, had operated ſo ſtrongly on the minds of men, that the Spaniſh alliance was looked on with diſtruſt and horror, and a general inſurrection was planned by the Duke of Suffolk, Sir Thomas Wyatt, and Sir Peter Carew. The conduct of the latter was ſo imprudent, that he was arreſted before he had put his deſign into execution; the

two former, particularly Wyatt, reduced the government to ſome difficulties and even riſk; but a delay on the part of Wyatt gave the Earl of Pembroke an opportunity of ſurrounding him and taking him priſoner, ſoon after he had entered the city of London with four thouſand followers. To this exploit at ſo critical a juncture it is probable that Mary was indebted to the ſecurity of her crown, for the unpopularity of the Queen was ſo great, and the hatred entertained againſt the Spaniards was ſo univerſal, that nothing but a deciſive, well-timed victory could have given ſtability to her tottering throne—ſuch a ſignal piece of ſervice pointed out Pembroke as the commander proper to take the charge of eight thouſand Engliſh that were ſent to join the Duke of Savoy againſt the French in the Low Countries. The ſiege of St. Quintin was reſolved on after ſeveral feints made on ſome towns in Picardy. The Conſtable Montmorency, in a gallant and well-fought action for the relief of the place, was made priſoner by the Engliſh, and his ar-

mour covered with fleur-de-lis remains to this day, it is ſaid, as a trophy in the Earl of Pembroke's magnificent ſeat at Wilton. Queen Mary died the enſuing year, and no opportunity offering for the diſplay of military talents in the early part of the reign of her ſucceſſor, the Earl of Pembroke appears no longer in the character of a general; his only ſubſequent actions which intereſt public attention, was the marriage of his ſon, Lord Herbert, to Lady Catharine Gray, the heireſs of the houſe of Suffolk, which, in conſequence of the excluſion of the poſterity of Margaret, Queen of Scotland, by the will of Henry VIII. was next in ſucceſſion to the crown; but this marriage exciting the watchful jealouſy of Elizabeth, the Earl, notwithſtanding Lady Catharine's pregnancy, concurred in procuring a divorce for his ſon. Two years preceding his death he was zealouſly active, in conjunction with many of the firſt nobility, for the declaration of Mary, Queen of Scots, as ſucceſſor to Elizabeth, but at that period Mary's crimes and in-

discretions counteracted the good intentions of her partizans, and he lived not to see their unhappy catastrophe, as he died in the year 1569, in the eleventh year of Elizabeth's reign.

FINIS.